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**SCIENTIFIC REPORT  
NO. 23**

**MULTITAPE AFA**

**Shelia Greibach  
and Seymour Ginsberg**

Prepared for  
AIR FORCE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH LABORATORIES  
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## ABSTRACT

The present paper gives device representations, via multitape AFA, for the families of languages which result from applying the  $\wedge$  and the substitution operations to AFL. In particular, if  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are multitape AFA (i.e., certain families of multi-storage tape acceptors), then  $\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2$  is defined as the family of multitape acceptors which results when the tapes of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are coalesced, with the  $\mathcal{A}_1$ -tapes preceding those in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . It is shown that the smallest full AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_2) = \{L_1 \cap L_2 / L_1 \text{ in } \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1)\}$  is  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2)$ . For each multitape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$ , a set  $\mathcal{A}^N$  of "nested" multitape acceptors is defined. It is shown that if  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are single-tape AFA, then the family of languages obtained from  $(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2)^N$  is the family of languages obtained by substituting the AFL defined by  $\mathcal{A}_2$  into the AFL defined by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .

## MULTITAPE AFA\*

INTRODUCTION

In [5] and [18], the notion of a family of one-way nondeterministic devices was abstracted and studied extensively. A natural extension of a device with a particular type of storage tape is a multitape (storage) device, each tape of the same kind. For example, a pushdown acceptor can be extended to a device with two pushdown tapes. In most familiar cases--counter, pushdown, stack--adding a second storage tape increases the power of the device to that of a Turing acceptor. By suitable restrictions on multitape devices, families can be obtained so that the associated languages, as, for example, the one-way nondeterministic list-storage languages [8], do not include all recursively enumerable sets. The purpose of this paper is to abstract the notion of an "abstract family of multitape acceptors" (abbreviated "multitape AFA"), each storage tape not necessarily of the same kind, and examine the family of associated languages.

Our interest in multitape AFA originally arose from studying various operations upon families of languages. We were interested in the operations of  $\wedge$  and substitution among families of languages, these operations appearing, sometimes in disguised form, in a number of papers [7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21]. (If  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  are families of languages, then  $\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \mathcal{L}_2 =$

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$(L_1 \cap L_2 / \text{each } L_i \text{ in } \mathcal{L}_1).$ ) Now certain families of languages are representable by single-tape AFA (see [5]). For these families, we were interested in device representations for the families obtained by the  $\wedge$  and substitution operations. The main results of this document show that multitape AFA provide such representations.

The paper itself is divided into four sections and an appendix. Section 1 introduces the notion of a multitape AFA. It is shown (Lemma 1.1) that for each multitape AFA there exists a single-tape AFA, equivalent from the point of view of sets accepted.

Section 2 introduces the operation of  $\wedge$  between multitape AFA and discusses the operation of  $\wedge$  between AFL. (AFL [5] are families of sets of words with certain properties and are an abstraction of many of the formal languages discussed in computer science.) Roughly speaking, if  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are multitape AFA, then  $\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2$  is the multitape AFA resulting when the tapes of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are coalesced, with the  $\mathcal{A}_1$ -tapes preceding those in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . The operation  $\wedge$  between multitape AFA is then used to provide a multitape AFA characterization of the smallest AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n$ , each  $\mathcal{L}_i$  an AFL, in terms of an AFA defining the  $\mathcal{L}_i$  (Theorem 2.1). A characterization of an AFL being closed under intersection is given in terms of the existence of a certain kind of multitape AFA (Theorem 2.3).

Section 3 is concerned with multitape transducers, i.e., devices obtained by adding an output tape to a multitape acceptor. Connections between multitape transducers, composition of single-tape transducers, and  $\wedge$  are then found.

Section 4 deals with "nested" multitape AFA. These are collections of multitape acceptors, each acceptor changing at most one storage tape at a time, and all tapes to the right of the changed one empty. The main result (Theorem 4.2) here is that if  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are single-tape AFA then the AFL given by the nested acceptors of  $\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2$  is the family obtained by substituting the AFL defined by  $\mathcal{A}_2$  into the AFL defined by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . In demonstrating this result, a technical lemma (Lemma 4.3) is used whose proof is so extensive that it is relegated to an appendix.

Numerous applications of the theory are given throughout to AFL and AFA of interest in computer science. For example, it is shown in Section 2 that a language (L) can be recognized in quasi-realtime by a multitape Turing acceptor if and only if L can be recognized in quasi-realtime by a multi-pushdown tape acceptor if and only if L is the  $\epsilon$ -free homomorphic image of the finite intersection of context-free languages. The applications given show that multitape AFA provide greater insight into families of languages of concern to automata and formal language theorists.

### Section 1. Preliminaries

As mentioned in the introduction, our aim in this paper is to study multitape (storage) devices, each tape not necessarily of the same kind. In addition, we shall examine the families of languages associated with these

devices. In this section we formalize the kind of multitape device with which we are concerned, and present some examples.

In [5] we formulated the notion of an AFA (abstract family of acceptors) and established a basic connection between it and certain families of languages. We shall define the multitape acceptors of interest to us by modifying the notion of an AFA. In particular, we introduce the notion of an "AFA-schema," a construct which represents a type of auxiliary storage tape. We then define a multitape AFA as a family of devices, each of which has only a finite number of preassigned AFA-schema.

Definition. An AFA-schema is a 4 tuple  $(\Gamma, I, f, g)$ , with the following properties:

- (a)  $\Gamma$  and  $I$  are abstract sets, with  $\Gamma$  and  $I$  nonempty.
- (b)  $f$  is a function from<sup>(1)</sup>  $\Gamma^* \times I$  into  $\Gamma^* \cup \{\emptyset\}$ .
- (c)  $g$  is a function from  $\Gamma^*$  into the finite subsets of  $\Gamma^*$  such that  $g(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$ , and  $\epsilon$  is in  $g(\gamma)$  if and only if  $\gamma = \epsilon$ .
- (d) For each  $\gamma$  in  $g(\Gamma^*)$ <sup>(2)</sup>, there is an element  $l_\gamma$  in  $I$  satisfying  $f(\gamma', l_\gamma) = \gamma'$  for all  $\gamma'$  such that  $g(\gamma')$  contains  $\gamma$ .
- (e) For each  $u$  in  $I$ , there exists a finite set  $\Gamma_u \subseteq \Gamma$  with the following property: If  $\Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma$ ,  $\gamma$  is in  $\Gamma_1^*$ , and  $f(\gamma, u) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $f(\gamma, u)$  is in  $(\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_u)^*$ ; that is, for each  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma^*$ , each symbol occurring in  $f(\gamma, u)$  either occurs in  $\gamma$  or is in  $\Gamma_u$ .

---

(1) For each abstract set  $E$ ,  $E^*$  is the set of all finite strings of symbols from  $E$ , including the empty string  $\epsilon$ . Each element of  $E^*$  is called a word in  $E$ .

(2) For each set  $A$ ,  $g(A) = \bigcup_{\gamma \text{ in } A} g(\gamma)$ .

Intuitively, an AFA-schema is a type of auxiliary storage.  $\Gamma$  is the set of "auxiliary" symbols (i.e., the set of symbols going into the auxiliary storage).  $I$  is the set of "instructions,"  $g$  is the "storage" information function which interprets the auxiliary storage configuration, and  $f$  is the "storage transformation" function which produces a new auxiliary storage configuration. The reader is referred to [5] for further details.

Definition. A multitape AFA is an ordered pair  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$ , or  $\mathfrak{A}$  when  $\Omega$  is understood, with the following properties:

- (1)  $\Omega$  is a 5-tuple  $(K, \Sigma, \mathcal{Q}, <, \mu)$ , where
  - (a)  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a nonempty index set and  $<$  is a simple order on  $\mathcal{Q}$  <sup>(3)</sup>.
  - (b)  $\mu$  is a function on  $\mathcal{Q}$  such that for each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$ ,  $\mu(\alpha) = x_\alpha = (\Gamma_\alpha, I_\alpha, f_\alpha, g_\alpha)$  is an AFA-schema <sup>(4)</sup>.
  - (c)  $K$  and  $\Sigma$  are infinite abstract sets.
- (2)  $\mathfrak{A}$  is the family of all 6-tuples  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, \nu)$ , called multitape acceptors, where
  - (a)  $\nu = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $k$  finite,  $\alpha_i$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$  for each  $i$ , and  $\alpha_i < \alpha_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i < k$ .
  - (b)  $K_1$  and  $\Sigma_1$  are finite subsets of  $K$  and  $\Sigma$ , resp.,  $F$  is a subset of  $K_1$ , and  $q_0$  is in  $K_1$ .

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(3) That is,  $<$  is transitive, antireflexive, and dichotomous.

(4) Thus the component  $\mu$  could be replaced in  $\Omega$  by the more cumbersome symbolism  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \text{ in } \mathcal{Q}}$ .



(c)  $\delta$  is a function from  $K_1 \times (\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times (\Gamma_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k})$  into the finite subsets of  $K_1 \times (I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k})$  such that

$$G_D = \{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k) / \delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \neq \emptyset \text{ for some } q \text{ and } a\}$$

is finite.

As in an AFA,  $K$  is the set of all possible "states" and  $\Sigma$  is the set of all possible inputs.  $\mathcal{Q}$  is an index set and  $\mu$  assigns a type of auxiliary storage to each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Each multitape acceptor has a finite number of tapes, with  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  indicating their types. The order in which a device displays its tapes does not really affect its action. The role of  $<$  is just to impose some order.

In general, for each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$  and each  $\gamma$  in  $g_\alpha(\Gamma_\alpha^*)$ , there may be more than one element  $u_{\alpha, \gamma}$  (possibly an infinite number) in  $I_\alpha$  satisfying  $f_\alpha(\gamma', u_{\alpha, \gamma}) = \gamma'$  for all  $\gamma'$  such that  $g_\alpha(\gamma')$  contains  $\gamma$ . Now we shall frequently be defining acceptors with special properties. Since acceptors are finitely described, we shall need a specific such  $u_{\alpha, \gamma}$  for each  $\alpha$  and each  $\gamma$ . Hence we have the following.

Notation. For each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$  and each  $\gamma$  in  $g_\alpha(\Gamma_\alpha^*)$ ,  $l(\alpha, \gamma)$  denotes a specific element in  $I_\alpha$  satisfying  $f_\alpha(\gamma', l(\alpha, \gamma)) = \gamma'$  for all  $\gamma'$  such that  $g_\alpha(\gamma')$  contains  $\gamma$ . In case  $\gamma = \epsilon$ ,  $l(\alpha, \epsilon)$  is abbreviated  $l_\alpha$ .

The movement of a multitape acceptor is now described, in analogy with that of an acceptor in an AFA.

Definition. Let  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, \nu)$ ,  $\nu = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ , be a multitape acceptor. A configuration  $C$  is a  $(k+2)$ -tuple  $C = (q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ , where  $q$  is in  $K_1$ ,  $w$  is in  $\Sigma_1^*$ , and each  $\gamma_i$  is in  $\Gamma_{\alpha_i}^*$ .

Notation. Let  $\vdash$  be the relation on configurations defined as follows:

For  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$  and  $w$  in  $\Sigma_1^*$ ,  $(q, aw, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \vdash (q', w, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k))$  if there exist  $\bar{\gamma}_1, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_k$ , each  $\bar{\gamma}_i$  in  $g_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i)$ , such that  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, (\bar{\gamma}_1, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_k))$  and  $f_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i, u_i) = \gamma'_i$  for each  $i$ . For each  $i \geq 0$  let  $\vdash^i$  be the relation on configurations defined by induction as follows:  $C \vdash^0 C$  for each  $C$  and  $C \vdash^{n+1} C'$  if there exists  $C''$  such that  $C \vdash^n C''$  and  $C'' \vdash C'$ . Let  $\vdash^*$  be the transitive, reflexive extension of  $\vdash$ , i.e.,  $C \vdash^* C'$  if  $C \vdash^n C'$  for some  $n \geq 0$ .

As usual, the above relations are written  $\vdash_D$ ,  $\vdash_D^i$ , and  $\vdash_D^*$  if  $D$  is to be emphasized.

For each multitape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$  and each  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , we shall be interested in those multitape acceptors with auxiliary storage tapes  $v$ .

Hence we have

Notation. For each multitape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$  and each  $v$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_v$  be the family of all  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

We now introduce the families of sets of words defined by the previous families of acceptors.

Notation. For each  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , let

$$L(D) = \{w / (q_0, w, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_D^* (q, \epsilon, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \text{ for some } q \text{ in } F\}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \{L(D) / D \text{ in } \mathcal{A}\}$  and for each  $v$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_v) = \{L(D) / D \text{ in } \mathcal{A}_v\}$ .

As in the acceptors discussed in [5], so we frequently shall be interested in those multitape acceptors with a bounded number of consecutive  $\epsilon$ -moves.

Definition.  $D$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is quasi-realtime if there exists an integer  $m \geq 0$  such that for all configurations  $C = (q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  and  $C' = (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k))$ ,

$C \stackrel{n}{\vdash} C'$  implies  $n \leq m$ . Let

$$L^t(\mathfrak{A}_v) = \{L(D)/D \text{ in } \mathfrak{A}_v \text{ is quasi-realtime}\}$$

and  $L^t(\mathfrak{A}) = \{L(D)/D \text{ in } \mathfrak{A} \text{ is quasi-realtime}\}.$

If  $v_1 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $v_2 = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ ,  $A = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$ ,  $B = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell\}$  and  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $\mathfrak{A}_{v_1}$  can be "embedded" in  $\mathfrak{A}_{v_2}$  in the following sense: Each element  $D$  of  $\mathfrak{A}_{v_1}$  may be identified with the multitape acceptor  $D'$  (in  $\mathfrak{A}_{v_2}$ ) which consists of (i) the tapes of  $D$ , and (ii) the tapes in  $B-A$ , with  $\epsilon$  on them, acting under the identity instruction. ( $D'$  behaves "essentially" the same as  $D$ , is quasi-realtime if and only if  $D$  is, and is such that  $L(D') = L(D)$ .) Thus  $L(\mathfrak{A}_{v_1}) \subseteq L(\mathfrak{A}_{v_2})$  and  $L^t(\mathfrak{A}_{v_1}) \subseteq L^t(\mathfrak{A}_{v_2})$ .

The most important multitape AFA are those having just one tape.

Definition. If  $\mathcal{Q} = \{\alpha\}$ , then  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$  is said to be a single-tape AFA.

We may identify each single-tape AFA with an AFA as defined in [5]. In particular, if  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$  is a single-tape AFA, then we may regard  $\Omega$  as

$(K, \Sigma, \Gamma_\alpha, I_\alpha, f_\alpha, g_\alpha)$  and  $\mathfrak{A}$  as the set of all  $D$  of the form  $(K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, p_0, F)$ .

If  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$  is a finite-tape AFA, i.e.,  $\mathcal{Q} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$  for some finite  $k$ , with  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_{i+1}$  for each  $i$ , then as noted above,  $\mathfrak{A}$  may be identified with  $\mathfrak{A}_v$ ,  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ .

We first show that multitape AFA are equivalent (from the point of view of sets accepted) to single-tape AFA. Thus, as families of recognition devices, multitape AFA are no more powerful than single-tape AFA. However, as we shall see, multitape acceptors are useful in representing, in a "natural" way, the languages obtained from families of languages by certain operations.

Lemma 1.1. if  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$  is a multitape AFA, then there exists a single-tape AFA

$(\bar{Q}, \bar{D})$  such that  $f(\bar{D}) = f(D)$  and  $f^t(\bar{D}) = f^t(D)$ .

Proof. Let  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, Q, <, \mu)$  and let  $\xi$  be a new symbol not in  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Omega} \Gamma_{\alpha}$ . For each  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$  and each  $(u_1, \dots, u_k)$  in  $I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k}$ , let  $\sigma(v)$  and

$\sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  be new symbols. Let  $\bar{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Omega} \Gamma_{\alpha} \cup \{\xi\} \cup \{\sigma(v) / \text{all } v\}$  and

$$\bar{I} = \{\sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k)) / \text{all } \sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k))\} \cup \{\sigma(v) / \text{all } v\} \cup \{\epsilon\}.$$

For  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $\Gamma_{\alpha_1}^* \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k}^*$  and  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ , let

$$\bar{g}(\sigma(v) \xi \gamma_1 \xi \dots \gamma_k \xi) = \sigma(v) \xi g_{\alpha_1}(\gamma_1) \xi \dots g_{\alpha_k}(\gamma_k) \xi.$$

Let  $\bar{g}(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$ . For  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $(u_1, \dots, u_k)$  in  $I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k}$ ,  $(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  in  $\Gamma_{\alpha_1}^* \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k}^*$ , and  $\bar{x}_1 = f_{\alpha_1}(x_1, u_1)$ , let  $\bar{f}(\epsilon, \sigma(v)) = \sigma(v) \xi^{k+1}$ ,  $\bar{f}(\sigma(v) \xi^{k+1}, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ ,  $\bar{f}(\epsilon, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ , and

$$\bar{f}(\sigma(v) \xi x_1 \xi \dots x_k \xi, \sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k))) = \sigma(v) \xi \bar{x}_1 \xi \dots \bar{x}_k \xi. \quad (5)$$

We first show that for  $\bar{\Omega} = (K, \Sigma, \bar{\Gamma}, \bar{I}, \bar{f}, \bar{g})$ ,  $(\bar{\Omega}, \bar{D})$  is a single-tape AFA. Then we consider  $f(\bar{D})$  and  $f^t(\bar{D})$ .

Intuitively,  $\bar{\Omega}$  is the single-tape AFA obtained by taking the tapes of each finite set of tapes and placing them on one tape, in the obvious order, with appropriate separators. Formally, we first note the following (for  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ):

(1)  $\bar{f}(\sigma(v) \xi x_1 \dots \xi x_k \xi, \sigma(v, (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k)))) = \sigma(v) \xi x_1 \dots \xi x_k \xi$  for all  $\sigma(v) \xi x_1 \dots \xi x_k \xi$  such that  $\bar{g}(\sigma(v) \xi x_1 \dots \xi x_k \xi)$  contains  $\sigma(v) \xi \gamma_1 \dots \xi \gamma_k \xi$ .

(2) For all  $x$ ,  $\bar{f}(x, \sigma(v))$  is in  $\{\sigma(v), \xi\}^* \cup \{\emptyset\}$  and  $\bar{f}(x, \epsilon)$  is in  $\{\epsilon, \emptyset\}$ .

For each  $(u_1, \dots, u_k)$  in  $I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k}$  and  $\Gamma_{u_1}, \dots, \Gamma_{u_k}$  as in (e) of the definition of an AFA-schema,  $\Gamma_{\sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k))} = \bigcup_k \Gamma_{u_i} \cup \{\sigma(v), \xi\}$ .

(5) Functional values are always to be  $\emptyset$  unless otherwise stated.

Hence  $(\Gamma, \bar{I}, \bar{f}, \bar{g})$  is an AFA-schema.

Suppose that  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  is an arbitrary multitape acceptor in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $\bar{q}_0$  and  $r_0$  be new symbols in  $K$  and  $\bar{D} = (K_1 \cup \{\bar{q}_0, r_0\}, \Sigma_1, \bar{\delta}, \bar{q}_0, \{r_0\})$ , where  $\bar{\delta}$  is defined as follows:

- (3)  $(q', \tau(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k)))$  is in  $\bar{\delta}(q, a, \sigma(v) \xi \gamma_1 \dots \xi \gamma_k \xi)$  if  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ .
- (4)  $(r_0, \epsilon)$  is in  $\bar{\delta}(p, \epsilon, \sigma(v) \xi^{k+1})$  if  $p$  is in  $F$ .
- (5)  $\bar{\delta}(\bar{q}_0, \epsilon, \epsilon) = \{(q', \sigma(v))\}$ .

Clearly  $L(D) = L(\bar{D})$  and  $\bar{D}$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is quasi-realtime. Thus  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathcal{D}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\bar{\mathcal{D}})$ .

Clearly  $L(D) = L(\bar{D})$  and  $\bar{D}$  is quasi-realtime. Thus  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathcal{D}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\bar{\mathcal{D}})$ .

Now let  $\bar{D} = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F)$  be in  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . Note that many different  $\sigma(v)$  might appear in  $\bar{D}$ . Let

$$S = \{v / (q', \sigma(v)) \text{ in } \delta(q, a, \epsilon) \text{ for some } q \text{ and } a\}.$$

We may assume that if  $(q', \sigma(v_1) \xi u_1 \xi \dots \xi u_k \xi)$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \sigma(v_2) \xi \gamma_1 \dots \xi \gamma_k \xi)$ , then  $v_1 = v_2 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ , where  $u_1$  is in  $I_{\alpha_1}$  and  $\gamma_1$  is in  $\mathcal{G}_{\alpha_1}(\Gamma_{\alpha_1}^*)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , and  $v_1$  is in  $S$ . (For no other type of rule can be applied in the  $\vdash$  relation.)

Since  $S$  is finite, there exists some  $v_0 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  such that if  $v$  is in  $S$ , then  $v = (\alpha_{j_1}, \dots, \alpha_{j_k})$  for some  $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$ . Let  $K' =$

$K_1 \times (\mathcal{S}(\epsilon))$ . Let  $D' = (K', \Sigma_1, \delta', (q_0, \epsilon), F \times \{\epsilon\}, v_0)$ , where  $\delta'$  is defined as follows (for arbitrary  $v = (\alpha_{j_1}, \dots, \alpha_{j_k})$ ):

- (6)  $((q', \epsilon), (1_{\alpha_1}, \dots, 1_{\alpha_n}))$  is in  $\delta'((q, \epsilon), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $(q', \epsilon)$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \epsilon)$ .
- (7)  $((q', \epsilon), (1_{\alpha_1}, \dots, 1_{\alpha_n}))$  is in  $\delta'((q, v), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $(q', \epsilon)$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \tau(v) \xi^{k+1})$ .

(8)  $((q', v), (1_{\alpha_1}, \dots, 1_{\alpha_n}))$  is in  $\delta'((q, \epsilon), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $(q', \sigma(v))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \epsilon)$ .

(9)  $((q', v), (u'_1, \dots, u'_n))$  is in  $\delta'((q, v), a, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_n))$  if  $(q', \sigma(v, (u_1, \dots, u_k)))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \sigma(v) \bar{\gamma}_1 \dots \bar{\gamma}_k \bar{\gamma})$ , where  $\gamma_i$  in  $\Gamma_{\alpha_{j_i}}^*$  for each  $i$ ,  $u'_i = u_i$  and  $\gamma'_i = \gamma_i$  for  $i$  in  $\{j_1, \dots, j_k\}$ , and  $u'_i = 1_{\alpha_i}$  and  $\gamma'_i = \epsilon$  for  $i$  not in  $\{j_1, \dots, j_k\}$ .

It is readily seen that  $L(D') = L(\bar{D})$  and  $D'$  is quasi-realtime if  $\bar{D}$  is quasi-realtime. Thus  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathcal{A}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\bar{\mathcal{A}})$ , whence equality in both cases.

Since each  $\mathcal{A}_v$  may be considered a multitape AFA, we have

Corollary. If  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A})$  is a multitape AFA, then for each  $v$  there exists a single-tape AFA  $(\bar{\mathcal{A}}, \bar{\mathcal{A}})$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathcal{A}}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_v)$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\bar{\mathcal{A}}) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_v)$ .

Using Lemma 1.1, we are able to apply results of [5] to multitape AFA.

Since we are dealing with acceptors, we are naturally interested in various families of sets of words. We recall some terminology from [7, 5].

Definition. A family of languages is pair  $(\Sigma, \mathcal{L})$ , or  $\mathcal{L}$  when  $\Sigma$  is understood, where

- (1)  $\Sigma$  is an infinite set of symbols,
- (2) for each  $L$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  there is a finite set  $\Sigma_1 \subseteq \Sigma$  such that  $L \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ , and
- (3)  $L \neq \emptyset$  for some  $L$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

The families of languages we are most concerned with are now given.

Definition. An abstract family of languages (abbreviated AFL) is a family

of languages closed under the operations of  $\cup$ ,  $\cdot$ ,  $+$ ,  $\epsilon$ -free homomorphism<sup>(6)</sup>, inverse homomorphism<sup>(7)</sup>, and intersection with regular sets. An AFL is said to be full if it is closed under arbitrary homomorphism.

It was shown in [5] that for each single-tape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  are AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , with  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  being full (and conversely, for each AFL  $\mathcal{L}$  containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , resp. full AFL  $\mathcal{L}$ , there exists a single-tape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{L}$ , resp.  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ ). From Lemma 1.1 we therefore get

Theorem 1.1. For each multitape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  are AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , with  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  being full. Furthermore, for each  $v$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_v)$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_v)$  are AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , with  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_v)$  being full.

One of the operations upon families of languages in which we shall be interested is intersection. This leads to

Notation. For families of languages  $\mathcal{L}_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_n$  let

$$\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n = \{L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n / \text{each } L_i \text{ in } \mathcal{L}_i\}.$$

We now introduce some notation to describe certain families of languages related to a given family of languages.

Notation. For each family of languages  $\mathcal{L}$  let

(6) For each set of words  $A$ ,  $A^+ = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A^i$  and  $A^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} A^i$ , where  $A^{i+1} = A^i A$ ,  $i \geq 1$ , and  $A^0 = \{\epsilon\}$ .

(7) A mapping  $h$  from  $\Sigma_1^*$  into  $\Sigma_2^*$  is a homomorphism if  $h(xy) = h(x)h(y)$  for all  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\Sigma_1^*$ . If  $h(x) = \epsilon$  implies  $x = \epsilon$ , then  $h$  is said to be  $\epsilon$ -free. The mapping  $h^{-1}$  of subsets of  $\Sigma_2^*$  into subsets of  $\Sigma_1^*$  defined by  $h^{-1}(Y) = \{x/h(x) \text{ in } Y\}$  for all  $Y \subseteq \Sigma_2^*$  is called an inverse homomorphism.

- (a)  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- (b)  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest full AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- (c)  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}) = \{h(L)/L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}, h \text{ an } \epsilon\text{-free homomorphism}\}$ .
- (d)  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \{h(L)/L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}, h \text{ an arbitrary homomorphism}\}$ .
- (e)  $\mathcal{F}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$  and closed under intersection.
- (f)  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest full AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$  and closed under intersection.

(g)  $\bigwedge \mathcal{L} = \{L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n / n \geq 1, \text{ each } L_i \text{ in } \mathcal{L}\} = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} (\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n), \mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{L}$   
for each  $i$ .

Clearly the families in (a), (b), (e), and (f) exist.

Finally, we summarize a number of AFL relations (some already known) which are used extensively in the sequel.

Theorem 1.2. Let  $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{L}_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_n, \mathcal{L}'_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}'_m$  be AFL.

- (a)  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{L})$ .
- (b)  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) = \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)$ , and  
 $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)$ .
- (c)  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) \wedge \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n \wedge \mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$   
and  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n \wedge \mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$ .
- (d)  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n))$ .
- (e)  $\mathcal{F}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{F}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L})$ , and  
 $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\bigwedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}))$ .

Proof. (a) This equality is in [11].

- (b) The first equality is in [7] and the second follows from the first.



(c) Let  $L_1$  be in  $\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n$  and  $L_2$  in  $\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m$ . Let  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  be homomorphisms, and let  $L = h_1(L_1) \cap h_2(L_2)$ . Since  $f(X) \cap Y = f[X \cap f^{-1}(Y)]$  for arbitrary sets  $X$  and  $Y$  and an arbitrary function  $f$ ,  $L = h_1(L_1 \cap h_1^{-1} h_2(L_2))$ . Since  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$  are AFL,  $h_1^{-1} h_2(L) = h_3(L'_2)$  for some homomorphism  $h_3$ ,  $\epsilon$ -free if  $h_2$  is  $\epsilon$ -free, and some set  $L'_2$  in  $\mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m$ . Then  $L = h_1(L_1 \cap h_3(L'_2)) = h_1 h_3(h_3^{-1}(L_1) \cap L'_2)$ . From [7],  $\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n$  is closed under  $h^{-1}$ . Thus  $L$  is in  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n \wedge \mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$ . If  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  are  $\epsilon$ -free, then  $h_1 h_3$  is  $\epsilon$ -free so that  $L$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n \wedge \mathcal{L}'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}'_m)$ .

(d) Clearly  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1)]$ . Continuing by induction, suppose  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_{n-1})]$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Consider  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)$ . Obviously  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n)]$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n)] &\subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_{n-1})) \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n)] \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n)], \text{ by induction,} \\ &\subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1} \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)], \text{ by (c),} \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_n)]$ .

(e) Consider the first sequence of equalities. Clearly  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{F}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L})$ . To get equality, it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L})$  is closed under intersection. To this end, note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) \wedge \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) &= \bigcup_{m \geq 1} \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}] \wedge \bigcup_{m \geq 1} \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}] \\ &= \bigcup_{m, n \geq 1} (\mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}]_n \wedge \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}]_m) \\ &\subseteq \bigcup_{m, n \geq 1} \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}]_{m+n}, \text{ by (c),} \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}). \end{aligned}$$

For the second sequence of equalities, we have  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\wedge \mathcal{L})$ . Replacing  $\mathcal{L}$  by  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$ , we have  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}(\wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}))$ . From (d), we readily get  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}))$ . Hence the result.

Corollary. (a) If  $n \geq 2$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_n$  are AFL, then

$$\mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \mathcal{L}_n] = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n).$$

(b) If  $n \geq 2$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_n$  are full AFL, then

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}[\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \mathcal{L}_n] = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n).$$

Proof. It suffices to show (a), a similar argument holding for (b). Since

$$\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1} \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}),$$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n) \subseteq \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \mathcal{L}_n].$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \mathcal{L}_n] &= \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_{n-1}) \wedge \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_n)] \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)], \text{ by (c) of Theorem 1.2,} \\ &= \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n). \end{aligned}$$

Combining, we get the desired equality.

## Section 2. Multitape AFA and Intersection

In this section we represent the smallest AFL containing the intersection of languages from a finite sequence of AFL in terms of a multitape AFA. In particular, we define  $\mathcal{Q}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{Q}_n$  for the sequence of multitape AFA  $\mathcal{Q}_1, \dots, \mathcal{Q}_n$ . (The operator  $\wedge$  for multitape AFA plays a basic role throughout the paper and is analogous to the cross product operation  $\times$  in set theory.) We then show that  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{Q}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{Q}_n)) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{Q}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{Q}_n)$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}_n)) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{Q}_n)$ .

We now introduce the operation  $\wedge$  for multitape AFA.

Notation. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be an abstract set,  $<_{\mathcal{B}}$  a simple order on  $\mathcal{B}$ , and

$\{(\Omega_{\beta}, \mathfrak{A}_{\beta}) / \beta \text{ in } \mathcal{B}\}$  a family of multitape AFA, with  $\Omega_{\beta} = (K, \Sigma, \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}, <_{\beta}, \mu_{\beta})$  for each  $\beta$ . Then  $\bigwedge_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}} \mathfrak{A}_{\beta}$  is the multitape AFA  $(\Omega, \bigwedge_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}} \mathfrak{A}_{\beta})$ , where  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, \mathcal{Q}, <, \mu)$  is defined as follows:

- (1)  $\mathcal{Q} = \bigcup_{\beta \text{ in } \mathcal{B}} (\mathcal{Q}_{\beta} \times \{\beta\})$ .
- (2)  $\mu(\alpha, \beta) = \mu_{\beta}(\alpha)$  for each  $\beta$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  and each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{Q}_{\beta}$ .
- (3)  $(\alpha, \beta) < (\alpha', \beta')$  if and only if either  $\beta = \beta'$  and  $\alpha <_{\beta} \alpha'$ , or  $\beta <_{\mathcal{B}} \beta'$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a finite set  $\mathcal{B} = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n\}$  and  $<_{\mathcal{B}}$  is the order on  $\mathcal{B}$  as given, then  $\bigwedge_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}} \mathfrak{A}_{\beta}$  is written as  $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} \mathfrak{A}_{\beta_i}$  or  $\mathfrak{A}_{\beta_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{A}_{\beta_n}$ .

Obviously the set of words accepted is independent of the order  $<_{\mathcal{B}}$  on  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Frequently  $\mathcal{B}$  is a subset of the integers. In this case, unless stated otherwise,  $<_{\mathcal{B}}$  is the natural order of the integers.

If the  $\mathcal{Q}_{\beta}$  are pairwise disjoint, then we may identify each  $(\alpha, \beta)$  with  $\alpha$  and write  $\mathcal{Q}$  as  $\bigcup_{\beta \text{ in } \mathcal{B}} \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}$ . In the sequel, we shall always assume (without loss of generality) that the  $\mathcal{Q}_{\beta}$  are pairwise disjoint.

For each multitape AFA  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$ ,  $\mathfrak{A}$  may be identified with  $\bigwedge_{\alpha \text{ in } \mathcal{Q}} \mathfrak{A}_{\alpha}$ .

We now turn toward showing that  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{A}_n) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_n))$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{A}_n) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_n))$ . That is, the family of those sets accepted by at least one acceptor (quasi-realtime acceptor) in the AFA  $\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{A}_n$  coincides with the family of the homomorphic ( $\epsilon$ -free homomorphic) images of the sets in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_n)$  ( $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_n)$ ). First though, we need two lemmas.

Lemma 2.1. For all multitape AFA  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2).$$

Proof. For each  $i$ , let  $\Omega_i = (K, \Sigma, \alpha_i, <_i, \mu_i)$  and let  $D_i = (K_i, \Sigma_i, \delta_i, q_i, F_i, v_i)$

be in  $\mathfrak{A}_i$ , with  $v_1 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$  and  $v_2 = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ . Let

$$v_3 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell), K_3 = K_1 \times K_2, \text{ and } F_3 = F_1 \times F_2.$$

Let  $D_3 = (K_3, \Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2, \delta_3, q_3, F_3, v_3)$ , where  $\delta_3$  is defined as follows:

(1) If  $a$  is in  $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2$ ,  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_1(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  and  $(p', (\bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_\ell))$  is in  $\delta_2(p, a, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ , let  $((q', p'), (u_1, \dots, u_k, \bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_\ell))$  be in  $\delta_3((q, p), a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ .

(2) If  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_1(q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ , then for all  $(\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell)$  in  $G_{D_2}$  and  $p$  in  $K_2$  let  $((q', p), (u_1, \dots, u_k, l(\beta_1, \gamma'_1), \dots, l(\beta_\ell, \gamma'_\ell)))$  be in  $\delta_3((q, p), \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ .

(3) If  $(p', (u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta_2(p, \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ , then for all  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G_{D_1}$  and all  $q$  in  $K_1$  let  $((q, p'), (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  be in  $\delta_3((q, p), \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ .

Clearly  $L(D_3) = L(D_1) \cap L(D_2)$  and  $D_3$  is quasi-realtime if and only if  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are quasi-realtime. Hence the result.

Lemma 2.2. For all multitape AFA  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$

$$(a) \quad \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)$$

$$\text{and } (b) \quad \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2)) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)) = \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2).$$

Proof. For each  $i$ , let  $\Omega_i = (K, \Sigma, \alpha_i, <_i, \mu_i)$ . Consider (a). By Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 1.1,  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)) \subseteq \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)] = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)$ .

To see the reverse containment let  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  be quasi-realtime and in

$\mathfrak{A}_3$ , with  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ ,  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$  in  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , and  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell$  in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . Let  $L = L(D)$ . For each  $q, a, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}$  such that  $\#(\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}))) > 0^{(8)}$  and each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \#(\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell})))$  let  $(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i)$  be a new element of  $\Sigma$ . Let  $\Sigma_2$  be the set of all such  $(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i)$ . Clearly  $\Sigma_2$  is finite. Let  $c$  be a new element of  $\Sigma$ . Let  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  be the homomorphisms on  $\Sigma_2^*$  and  $(\Sigma_1 \cup \{c\})^*$  resp. defined by  $h_1((q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i)) = a$  if  $a \neq \epsilon$  and is  $c$  if  $a = \epsilon$ , and  $h_2(a) = a$  if  $a \neq c$  and  $h_2(c) = \epsilon$ . We shall show that there exist  $L_1$  in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1)$  and  $L_2$  in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)$  such that  $L = h_2 h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$  and  $L_2$  is  $\epsilon$ -limited on  $h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$ .<sup>(9)</sup> From this it will follow that  $h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2))$ , an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$  [7], thus that  $h_2 h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2))$  [5].

For  $i = 1, 2$  let  $D_i = (K_i, \Sigma_i, \delta_i, q_0, F, v_i)$ , where  $v_1 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $v_2 = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ , and  $\delta_i$  is defined as follows: For each  $(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i)$  in  $\Sigma_2$ , let the elements of  $\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}))$  be simply ordered in some way. If  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_{k+\ell}))$  is the  $i$ -th member of  $\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}))$ , let

$$\delta_1(q, (q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i), (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) = \{(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))\}$$

$$\text{and } \delta_2(q, (q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell}), i), (\gamma_{k+1}, \dots, \gamma_{k+\ell})) = \{(q', (u_{k+1}, \dots, u_{k+\ell}))\}.$$

Let  $L_1 = L(D_1)$  and  $L_2 = L(D_2)$ . Since  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  have no  $\epsilon$ -moves,  $L_1$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1)$  and  $L_2$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)$ . Clearly  $L \subseteq h_2 h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$ .

<sup>(8)</sup>For each set  $E$ ,  $\#(E)$  denotes the number of elements in it.

<sup>(9)</sup>A homomorphism  $h$  is  $\epsilon$ -limited on a set  $L$  if there exists  $k \geq 0$  such that for all  $w$  in  $L$ , if  $w = xyz$  and  $h(y) = \epsilon$ , then  $|y| < k$ .

Consider the reverse containment. If  $\epsilon$  is in  $L_1 \cap L_2$ , then  $q_0$  is in  $F$  and  $\epsilon$  is in  $L$ . Suppose  $w \notin \epsilon$  is in  $L_1 \cap L_2$ , with  $|w| = n$ . Then

$w = (p_1, a_1, (\gamma_{11}, \dots, \gamma_{1(k+l)}), j_1) \dots (p_n, a_n, (\gamma_{n1}, \dots, \gamma_{n(k+l)}), j_n)$  for some  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  in  $K_1, a_1, \dots, a_n$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ , each  $(\gamma_{i1}, \dots, \gamma_{i(k+l)})$  in  $G_D$ , and  $1 \leq j_i \leq \#(\delta(p_i, a_i, (\gamma_{i1}, \dots, \gamma_{i(k+l)})))$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For each  $i$ , let  $(p'_i, (u_{i1}, \dots, u_{i(k+l)}))$  be the  $j_i$ -th element of  $\delta(p_i, a_i, (\gamma_{i1}, \dots, \gamma_{i(k+l)}))$ . By definition of  $\vdash$ ,  $\delta_1$ , and  $\delta_2$ , it follows that  $q_0 = p_1, p_r = p'_{r+1}$ ,  $1 \leq r < n$ , and  $p'_n$  is in  $F$ . Furthermore, there exists  $y_{11}, \dots, y_{1(k+l)}, y_{21}, \dots, y_{2(k+l)}, \dots, y_{n(k+l)}$  such that  $y_{11} = \dots = y_{1(k+l)} = \epsilon, y_{(i+1)r} = f_{\alpha_r}(y_{ir}, u_{ir})$  and  $\epsilon = f_{\alpha_r}(y_{nr}, u_{nr})$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq k$ , and  $y_{(i+1)(k+r)} = f_{\beta_r}(y_{i(k+r)}, u_{i(k+r)})$  and  $\epsilon = f_{\beta_r}(y_{n(k+r)}, u_{n(k+r)})$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq l$ . Let  $p_{n+1} = p'_n$  and  $y_{(n+1)1} = \dots = y_{(n+1)(k+l)} = \epsilon$ . Then

$$(p_1, a_1, (\gamma_{11}, \dots, \gamma_{1(k+l)})) \vdash_D (p_{i+1}, \epsilon, (y_{(i+1)1}, \dots, y_{(i+1)(k+l)}))$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , so that  $a_1 \dots a_n = h_2 h_1(w)$  is in  $L$ . Therefore  $h_2 h_1(L_1 \cap L_2) = L$ .

Furthermore, if

$$h_2 h_1((p_r, a_r, (\gamma_{r1}, \dots, \gamma_{r(k+l)}), j_r) \dots (p_{r+s}, a_{r+s}, (\gamma_{(r+s)1}, \dots, \gamma_{(r+s)(k+l)}), j_{r+s})),$$

then  $h_1((p_r, \dots) \dots (p_{r+s}, \dots)) = c^{s+1}$  and  $a_r = \dots = a_{r+s} = \epsilon$ . Then

$$(p_r, \epsilon, (\gamma_{r1}, \dots, \gamma_{r(k+l)})) \vdash_D^{s+1} (p_{r+s+1}, \epsilon, (y_{(r+s+1)1}, \dots, y_{(r+s+1)(k+l)})).$$

Since  $D$  is quasi-realtime, there exists an integer  $t$  such that for all configurations  $C = (q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{k+l}))$  and  $C' = (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{k+l}))$  of  $D$ ,  $C \vdash^1 C'$  implies  $i \leq t$ . Hence  $s+1 \leq t$ . Therefore  $h_2$  is  $\epsilon$ -limited on  $h_1(L_1 \cap L_2)$ .

Consider (b). It was shown in [5] that for any single-tape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$ , thus for any multitape AFA  $\mathcal{A}$  by the corollary to Lemma 1.1,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
f(a_1 \wedge a_2) &= \hat{H}(f^t(a_1 \wedge a_2)) \\
&= \hat{H}[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge f^t(a_2))], \text{ by (a)} \\
&= \hat{H}(f^t(a_1) \wedge f^t(a_2)) \\
&= \hat{H}(\hat{H}(f^t(a_1)) \wedge \hat{H}(f^t(a_2))), \text{ by Theorem 1.2 (d),} \\
&= \hat{H}(f(a_1) \wedge f(a_2)).
\end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.1.** For all multitape AFA  $a_1, \dots, a_n$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(a)} \quad H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_n)) &= f^t(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n) \\
\text{and (b)} \quad \hat{H}(f(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f(a_n)) &= \hat{H}(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_n)) = f(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n).
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** For each  $i$  let  $\Omega_i = (K, \Sigma, Q_i, <, \mu_i)$ .

(a) Clearly  $H(f^t(a_1)) = f^t(a_1)$ , so that (a) is true for  $n=1$ . Continuing by induction suppose the theorem is true for  $n-1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned}
f^t(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n) &= f^t((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_{n-1}) \wedge a_n) \\
&= H(f^t(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_{n-1}) \wedge f^t(a_n)), \text{ by Lemma 2.2,} \\
&= H[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1})) \wedge H(f^t(a_n))], \text{ by induction.}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Now } H[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1})) \wedge H(f^t(a_n))] \\
&\subseteq H[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1}) \wedge f^t(a_n))], \text{ by Theorem 1.2 c,} \\
&= H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_n)) \\
&\subseteq H[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1})) \wedge H(f^t(a_n))], \\
&\quad \text{since } f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1}) \subseteq H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1})).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have equality. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_n)) &= H[H(f^t(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f^t(a_{n-1})) \wedge f^t(a_n)] \\
&= f^t(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(b) \quad \hat{H}[\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)] &= \hat{H}[\hat{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1)) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n))] \\
&= \hat{H}[\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n)], \text{ by Theorem 1.2 d,} \\
&= \hat{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n))] \\
&= \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}_n)), \text{ by (a)} \\
&= \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n).
\end{aligned}$$

Examples. (1) Let  $\mathcal{A}_c$  denote the AFA of 1-counters. Now it is known that every recursively enumerable (r.e) set is accepted by at least one 2-counter [3, 19]. Thus the family of r.e. sets is  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_c \wedge \mathcal{A}_c)$ , which is  $\hat{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c))$  by Theorem 2.1. Examining the proof of Lemma 2.2, we see that every r.e. set is expressible as the homomorphic image of a pair of deterministic realtime 1-counter languages. Since it is undecidable if an arbitrary r.e. set is empty, it is undecidable if  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \emptyset$  for arbitrary deterministic realtime 1-counter languages.

(2) Let  $\mathcal{A}_p$  be the AFA of pushdown acceptors (pda). The family of list languages defined in [8] is the family of  $\epsilon$ -free languages<sup>(10)</sup> in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p \wedge \mathcal{A}_p)$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p \wedge \mathcal{A}_p) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_1$  be the  $\epsilon$ -free languages in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)$ . Clearly the family of list languages is then  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \mathcal{L}_1)$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF}$  be the family of  $\epsilon$ -free context-free languages. It is shown in [14] that  $\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF} = \mathcal{L}_1$ . Therefore the family of list languages can be characterized as  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF} \wedge \mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF})$ . It is proved in [11] that  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF} \wedge \mathcal{L}_{\epsilon CF})$  is the family of languages defined by a context-free "control" set acting on an " $\epsilon$ -free" context-free grammar, thereby providing a second characterization of the list languages. A third characterization will appear in Section 3.

<sup>(10)</sup> A set is  $\epsilon$ -free if it does not contain  $\epsilon$ .



We now turn to  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}))$ .

Notation. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a multitape AFA, then  $\wedge \mathcal{A}$  is the multitape AFA  $\bigwedge_{Q} \mathcal{A}_n$ , where  $Q = \{n/n \geq 1\}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_n = \mathcal{A}$  for each  $n$ .

Theorem 2.2. For each single-tape AFA  $(Q, \mathcal{A})$

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{L}^t(\wedge \mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{F}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})).$$

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{L}(\wedge \mathcal{A}) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})).$$

Proof. (1) By Theorem 1.2 e,  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{F}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . Suppose

$Q = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, I, f, g)$ . Then  $\wedge \mathcal{A}$  is the multitape AFA  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{\mathcal{A}})$ , where

$\bar{Q} = (K, \Sigma, Q, <, \mu)$ ,  $Q = \{1/i \geq 1\}$ ,  $< = <$ , and  $\mu(1) = (\Gamma, I, f, g)$  for each  $i$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}_n = \bar{\mathcal{A}}(1, \dots, n)$ . Now for each  $n$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_n$  may be regarded as the  $n$ -tape AFA,

$\mathcal{A} \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}$  ( $n$  times). By Theorem 2.1, therefore,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n) =$

$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . Thus  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . Then

$\mathcal{L}^t(\wedge \mathcal{A}) = \bigcup_n \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . On the other hand, if  $L$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ ,

then  $L = h(L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n)$  for some  $\epsilon$ -free homomorphism  $h$ , some  $n \geq 1$ , and some

languages  $L_1, \dots, L_n$  in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n$ , thus  $L$ , is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n)$ .

Therefore  $\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\wedge \mathcal{A})$ , whence equality.

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \quad \text{Now } \mathcal{L}(\wedge \mathcal{A}) &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}(\wedge \mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}^t(\wedge \mathcal{A})) \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{H}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))), \text{ by (1) above} \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})), \text{ by Theorem 1.2 e.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \mathcal{L}(\wedge \mathcal{A}) &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))), \text{ by Theorem 1.2 e,} \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\cap}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})), \text{ by Theorem 1.2 e.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence (2) follows.

Using the previous result, we now present a characterization of a (full) AFL closed under intersection.

Theorem 2.3.  $\mathcal{L}$  is a (full) AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$  and closed under intersection

if and only if there exists an AFA  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$ ,  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, Q, <, \mu)$ , such that

$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  ( $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ ),  $Q$  is infinite, and  $\mu(\alpha) = \mu(\beta)$  for all  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $Q$ .

Proof. Suppose  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$  is an AFA such that  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  ( $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ ),  $Q$  is infinite, and  $\mu(\alpha) = \mu(\beta)$  for all  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $Q$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{L}$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$ . From the  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  point of view, there is no loss in assuming  $Q$  is countable.

Then  $\mathcal{A} = \bigwedge_Q \mathcal{A}_\alpha = \bigwedge_Q \mathcal{A}_1$ , where  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \mathcal{A}_1$  for all  $\alpha$ . The "if" then follows from Theorem 2.2.

Consider the "only if." Suppose  $\mathcal{L}$  is a (full) AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$  and closed under intersection. Hence there exists a single-tape AFA  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1) = \mathcal{L}$  ( $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) = \mathcal{L}$ ). By Theorem 2.2,  $\mathcal{L}^t(\bigwedge \mathcal{A}_1) = \mathcal{F}_\cap(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1)) = \mathcal{F}_\cap(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}$  since  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL closed under intersection ( $\mathcal{L}(\bigwedge \mathcal{A}_1) = \mathcal{F}_\cap(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1)) = \mathcal{F}_\cap(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}$ ). The result then follows from the fact that  $\bigwedge \mathcal{A}_1$  is an AFA satisfying the theorem.

Examples. (1) Let  $\mathcal{A}_p$  be the family of pda and  $\mathcal{A}_T$  the family of single-tape one-way Turing acceptors (i.e., the input tape is read one way). It is known that each Turing acceptor can be imitated, without loss of time, by some 2-pushdown acceptor [3]. Thus  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_T) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p \wedge \mathcal{A}_p) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_T)) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ , whence equality. Therefore  $\mathcal{L}^t(\bigwedge \mathcal{A}_p) = \mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) = \mathcal{H}(\bigwedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_T)) = \mathcal{L}^t(\bigwedge \mathcal{A}_T)$ .

In other words,  $L$  can be recognized in quasi-realtime by a multitape Turing acceptor if and only if  $L$  can be recognized in quasi-realtime by a multi-pushdown tape acceptor if and only if  $L$  is the  $\epsilon$ -free homomorphic image of the (finite) intersection of context-free languages.

(2) By a straightforward extension of results in [15] and [4], it can be shown that for each  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$L_n = \{a^{m_1}_b \dots a^{m_n}_c a^{m_n}_b \dots a^{m_1}_b / m_1, \dots, m_n \geq 1\}$$

is recognized by a quasi-realtime  $n$ -counter acceptor but by no  $(n-1)$ -counter acceptor. That is, if  $\mathcal{A}_c$  is the AFA of 1-counter acceptors and  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \mathcal{A}_c$  for each  $i \geq 1$ , then  $L_n$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}_n)$  but not in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}_{n-1})$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c) &\subset \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c \wedge \mathcal{A}_c) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c)) \\ &\subset \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_c)) \\ &\dots, \end{aligned}$$

with each containment proper, forms an infinite hierarchy of AFL properly contained in  $\mathcal{L}_{CS}$ , the family of context-sensitive languages. By contrast it is still open whether the family of list languages, the  $\epsilon$ -free languages in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p \wedge \mathcal{A}_p) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ , is properly contained in the family of  $\epsilon$ -free languages of  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$  or whether the family of  $\epsilon$ -free languages in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_T)$  is properly contained in  $\mathcal{L}_{CS}$ .

In passing, we note below a specialized result between the  $\wedge$  operation, linear homomorphisms, and AFL.

Definition. A homomorphism  $h$  is linear on  $L \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$  if there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $|w| \leq k |h(w)|$  for all  $w$  in  $L$ . For each family of languages  $\mathcal{L}$ , let

$$\mathcal{H}^{lin}(\mathcal{L}) = \{h(L)/L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}, h \text{ linear on } L\}.$$

It is shown in [9] that  $H^{\text{lin}}(\mathcal{L})$  is an AFL for each AFL  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** Given  $d_1, d_2$ , and  $d_3$ ,  $H^{\text{lin}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) = H^{\text{lin}}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{F}(L) \wedge \mathcal{F}(L))^{(11)}$  for every  $\epsilon$ -free AFL  $\mathcal{L}^{(12)}$  containing  $L = \{wd_3^R w / w \text{ in } \{d_1, d_2\}^*\}^{(13)}$ .

**Proof.** Since  $L$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $H^{\text{lin}}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{F}(L) \wedge \mathcal{F}(L)) \subseteq H^{\text{lin}}(\wedge \mathcal{L})$ . It thus suffices to show the reverse inclusion. Therefore let  $L_1, \dots, L_n$  be in  $\mathcal{L}$ , with

$\bigcup_{i=1}^n L_i \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ ,  $\Sigma_1$  finite. Let  $c$  be a symbol not in  $\Sigma_1$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}(L)$  contains

$L = \{wd_3^R w / w \text{ in } \{d_1, d_2\}^*\}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(L)$  contains the  $\epsilon$ -free linear context-free

languages. Therefore  $\mathcal{F}(L)$  contains the linear context-free language

$L_{\Sigma_1} = \{wcw^R / w \text{ in } \Sigma_1^*\}$ . Let  $S_1 = (L_{\Sigma_1} c)^n$ ,  $S_2 = \Sigma_1^* c (L_{\Sigma_1} c)^{n-1} \Sigma_1^*$ , and

$L' = (L_1 c \Sigma_1^* c) \dots (L_n c \Sigma_1^* c)$ . Then  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \{(wcw^R c)^n / w \text{ in } \Sigma_1^*\}$ ,

$$L' \cap S_1 \cap S_2 = \{(wcw^R c)^n / w \text{ in } L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n\},$$

and  $S_1 \cap S_2$  is in  $\mathcal{F}(L) \wedge \mathcal{F}(L)$ . For each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ , let  $\bar{a}$  be a new symbol and

$\Sigma_2 = \{\bar{a} / a \text{ in } \Sigma_1\}$ . Let  $h_1, h_2$ , and  $h_3$  be the homomorphisms defined by

$h_1(a) = h_1(\bar{a}) = a$ ,  $h_1(c) = c$ ,  $h_2(a) = a$ ,  $h_2(\bar{a}) = h_2(c) = \epsilon$ , and  $h_3(a) = \bar{a}$ ,

for all  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ . Then

$$L'' = h_1^{-1}(L') \cap h_1^{-1}(S_1) \cap \Sigma_1^* c (\Sigma_2 \cup \{c\})^*$$

$$= \{wc h_3(w^R) c [h_3(w) c h_3(w^R) c]^{n-1} / w \text{ in } L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n\}.$$

Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\epsilon$ -free,  $h_2$  is linear on  $L''$  and  $L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_n = h_2(L'')$  is in

$H^{\text{lin}}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{F}(L) \wedge \mathcal{F}(L))$ . Hence  $H^{\text{lin}}(\wedge \mathcal{L}) \subseteq H^{\text{lin}}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{F}(L) \wedge \mathcal{F}(L))$ , whence equality.

<sup>(11)</sup> We write  $\mathcal{F}(L)$  for  $\mathcal{F}(\{L\})$ .

<sup>(12)</sup> A family of languages  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\epsilon$ -free if each language in  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\epsilon$ -free.

<sup>(13)</sup> Let  $\epsilon^R = \epsilon$  and  $(a_1 \dots a_n)^R = a_n \dots a_1$ , each  $a_i$  a symbol.

### Section 3. Multitape Transducers

In the previous section we established some connections between multitape AFA, AFL, and the  $\wedge$  operations for AFL and multitape AFA. In this section we add an output tape to a multitape AFA to obtain an associated family of multitape transducers. We then note connections between multitape transducers, composition of single-tape transducers, and the  $\wedge$  operation for multitape AFA.

We first define multitape transducers.

Definition. Let  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A})$  be a multitape AFA, with  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, \mathcal{Q}, <, \mu)$ .

Let  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A}^0)$  or  $\mathfrak{A}^0$  when  $\Omega$  is understood, be the set of all 6-tuples

$M = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \delta, q_0, v)$ , called multitape transducers, such that

- (a)  $K_1$ ,  $\Sigma_1$ , and  $\Sigma_2$  are finite nonempty subsets of  $K$ ,  $\Sigma$ , and  $\Sigma$ , resp.
- (b)  $q_0$  is in  $K_1$ .
- (c)  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $k$  finite,  $\alpha_i$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$  for each  $i$ , and  $\alpha_i < \alpha_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i < k$ .

(d)  $\delta$  is a function from  $K_1 \times \Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\} \times (\Gamma_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k})$  into the finite subsets of  $K_1 \times (I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k}) \times \Sigma_2^*$  such that

$$G_M = \{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k) / \delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \neq \emptyset \text{ for some } q \text{ and } a\}$$

is finite.

$\mathfrak{A}^0$  is said to be a multitape abstract family of transducers (abbreviated, multitape AFT).

In a multitape transducer,  $K_1$ ,  $\Sigma_1$ , and  $\Sigma_2$  are called the "states," "inputs," and "outputs," resp.

The notation for the movement of multitape transducers is similar to that for acceptors.

Notation. Let  $M = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \delta, q_0, v)$  be a multitape transducer. Let  $\vdash$  be the relation on  $K_1 \times \Sigma_1^* \times (\Gamma_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k}) \times \Sigma_2^*$  defined as follows:

For  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ ,  $w$  in  $\Sigma_1^*$ , and  $y'$  in  $\Sigma_2^*$ ,

$$(q, aw, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), y') \vdash (q', w, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), y')$$

if there exist  $\bar{\gamma}_1, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_k$ , each  $\bar{\gamma}_i$  in  $g_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i)$ , such that

$(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k), y)$  is in  $\delta(q, a, (\bar{\gamma}_1, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_k))$  and  $f_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i, u_i) = \gamma'_i$  for each  $i$ .

The relations  $\vdash^n$  and  $\vdash^*$  are defined as in a multitape acceptor.

A multitape transducer realizes a function in the following way.

Notation. Let  $M = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \delta, q_0, v)$  be a multitape transducer. For each  $w$  in  $\Sigma_1^*$  let

$$M(w) = \{z / (q_0, w, \epsilon, \epsilon) \vdash^* (p, \epsilon, \epsilon, z) \text{ for some } p \text{ in } K_1\}.$$

For each  $L \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ , let  $M(L) = \bigcup_{w \text{ in } L} M(w)$ .

We shall need some special types of transducers.

Definition. Let  $M = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \delta, q_0, v)$  be a multitape AFA.

(1)  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -input bounded if there exists  $m \geq 0$  such that for all  $q, q', \gamma_1, \gamma'_1, y$ , and  $y'$ ,  $(q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), y) \vdash^n (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), y')$  implies  $n \leq m$ .

(2)  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -output bounded if there exists  $m \geq 0$  such that for all  $q, q', w, w', \gamma_1$ , and  $\gamma'_1$ ,  $(q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), \epsilon) \vdash^n (q', w', (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), \epsilon)$  implies  $n \leq m$ .

(3)  $M$  is partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded if there exists  $m \geq 0$  such that for all  $q, q', w, \gamma_1$ , and  $\gamma'_1$ ,  $(q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), \epsilon) \vdash^* (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), \epsilon)$  implies  $|w| \leq m$ .

Note that  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -output bounded if it is  $\epsilon$ -input bounded and partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded. Also, if  $M$  is partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded then it is  $\epsilon$ -output bounded.

Notation. Let  $(\Omega_1, \mathcal{D}_1), \dots, (\Omega_n, \mathcal{D}_n)$  be multitape AFA and  $(\Omega_1, \mathcal{D}_1^0), \dots, (\Omega_n, \mathcal{D}_n^0)$  the corresponding AFT. Let  $\hat{m}_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}, m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}$  and  $m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}^t$  be the sets of mappings defined by

$$\hat{m}_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n} = \{M_n M_{n-1} \dots M_1 / \text{each } M_i \text{ in } \mathcal{D}_i^0\},$$

$$m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n} = \{M_n \dots M_1 / \text{each } M_i \text{ in } \mathcal{D}_i^0 \text{ and partially } \epsilon\text{-output bounded}\},$$

$$\text{and } m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}^t = \{M_n \dots M_1 / \text{each } M_i \text{ in } \mathcal{D}_i^0, \epsilon\text{-input bounded, and } \epsilon\text{-output bounded}\}.$$

$$\text{Let } \hat{m}_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \{f(L)/f \text{ in } \hat{m}_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}, L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}\},$$

$$m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \{f(L)/f \text{ in } m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}, L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}\},$$

$$\text{and } m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}^t(\mathcal{L}) = \{f(L)/f \text{ in } m_{\mathcal{D}_1 \dots \mathcal{D}_n}^t, L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}\}.$$

We now present two lemmas which play a role analogous to that of Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2.

Lemma 3.1. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$  and  $(\Omega, \mathcal{D})$  a multitape AFA. Then

$$\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})) \subseteq \hat{m}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{L}),$$

$$H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})) \subseteq m_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{L}),$$

$$\text{and } H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D})) \subseteq m_{\mathcal{D}}^t(\mathcal{L}).$$

Proof. Let  $L_1$  be in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $L_2$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ . Let  $L_2 = L(D)$  for  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta_1, q_0, F_1, \nu)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\nu = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ . Let  $c$  and  $\bar{F}$  be new symbols in  $\Sigma$  and  $K$  resp. Then  $L_1 c$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $L_2 c$  is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ . If  $L_2$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $L_2 c$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$ . Let  $h$  be a homomorphism from  $\Sigma_1^*$  into  $\Sigma_2^*$ .

Let  $M$  be the multitape acceptor  $(K_1 \cup \{\bar{F}\}, \Sigma_1 \cup \{c\}, \Sigma_2, \delta_2, q_0, \nu)$ , where  $\nu = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$  and  $\delta_2$  is defined as follows:

- (1) Let  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k), h(a))$  be in  $\delta_2(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  if  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_1(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ .
- (2) Let  $(\bar{F}, (1_{\alpha_1}, \dots, 1_{\alpha_k}), \epsilon)$  be in  $\delta_2(p, c, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for all  $p$  in  $F$ .

Then for  $w$  in  $\Sigma_1^*$ ,  $q, q'$  in  $K_1$ ,

$$(q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), \epsilon) \stackrel{m}{\vdash} (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), h(w))$$

if and only if

$$(q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \stackrel{m}{\vdash} (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k)).$$

Thus  $M(L_1 c) = h(L_1 \cap L_2)$ , so that  $h(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_0(\mathcal{L})$ . If  $h$  is  $\epsilon$ -free, then  $M$  is partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded, so that  $h(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\mathcal{M}_0(\mathcal{L})$ . If  $D$  is quasi-realtime and  $h$  is  $\epsilon$ -free, then  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -input bounded and  $\epsilon$ -output bounded, so that  $h(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\mathcal{M}_0^t(\mathcal{L})$ . This completes the proof.

Lemma 3.2. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$  and  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$  a multitape AFA, with  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}^0)$  the corresponding AFT. Then

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_0(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})),$$

$$\mathcal{M}_0(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})),$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{M}^t(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})).$$



Proof. Let  $L$  be in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $M = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \delta_1, q_0, v)$  in  $\mathcal{D}^0$ , with  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ .

Let

$$n = \max\{|z| / (p', (u_1, \dots, u_k), z) \text{ in } \delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \text{ for some } p, p', a, u_1, \dots, u_k, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k\}.$$

Since  $G_M$  is finite,  $n$  exists. For  $w$  in  $\Sigma_2^*$ ,  $1 \leq |w| \leq n$ , let  $\bar{w}$  be a new symbol and  $\Sigma_3$  the set of all such  $\bar{w}$ . Let  $D = (K_1 \cup (K \times \Sigma_3), \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_3, \delta_2, q_0, K_1, v)$ , where  $\delta$  is defined as follows:

- (1) If  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k), z)$  is in  $\delta_1(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ , then
  - ( $\alpha$ )  $((q', \bar{z}), (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_2(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  if  $z \neq \epsilon$ .
  - ( $\beta$ )  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_2(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  if  $z = \epsilon$ .
- (2)  $(q, (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k)))$  is in  $\delta_2((q, \bar{z}), \bar{z}, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$

for all  $(q, \bar{z})$  in  $K_1 \times \Sigma_3$  and all  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G_M$ .

Let  $L_1 = L(D)$  and  $L_2 = \text{Shuf}(L, \Sigma_3^*)$ .<sup>(14)</sup> Then  $L_1$  is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})$  and  $L_2$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$ .<sup>(15)</sup>

Let  $h$  be the homomorphism on  $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_3$  defined by  $h(a) = \epsilon$  for  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $h(\bar{w}) = w$  for  $\bar{w}$  in  $\Sigma_3$ . Then  $M(L) = h(L_2 \cap L_1)$ , so that  $M(L)$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}))$ .

Suppose  $M$  is partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded. Then there exists  $m$  such that

$(q, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k), \epsilon) \xrightarrow{*} (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k), \epsilon)$  implies  $|w| \leq m$ . Then for any  $xwy$  in  $L_1$ ,  $h(w) = \epsilon$  implies  $|w| \leq m+1$ . Thus  $h$  is  $\epsilon$ -limited on  $L_1$  and so on  $L_1 \cap L_2$ . Now  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}))$  is an AFL. Since  $\mathcal{L}$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}))$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$ . Therefore  $h(L_1 \cap L_2)$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}))$  [5]. Hence  $M(L)$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}))$  if  $M$  is partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded. If  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -input bounded,

<sup>(14)</sup> Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be languages. Then  $\text{Shuf}(L_1, L_2)$ , the shuffles of  $L_1$  by  $L_2$ , is defined as the set

$$\{w_1 y_1 \dots w_n y_n / w_1 \dots w_n \text{ in } L_1, y_1 \dots y_n \text{ in } L_2, n \geq 1\}.$$

<sup>(15)</sup> It is known [5] that if  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL,  $L$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $R$  is regular, then  $\text{Shuf}(L, R)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

then obviously  $D$  is quasi-realtime and  $L(D)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$ . Thus, if  $M$  is  $\epsilon$ -input bounded and  $\epsilon$ -output bounded, and thus partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded, then  $h(L_2 \cap L_1) = M(L)$  is in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . This completes the proof.

Using the two previous lemmas we now derive

Theorem 3.1. Let  $(\alpha_1, \mathcal{A}_1), \dots, (\alpha_n, \mathcal{A}_n)$  be multitape AFA and  $\mathcal{L}$  an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ . Then

$$\hat{m}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)),$$

$$m_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}(\mathcal{L}) = H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)),$$

and  $m_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^t(\mathcal{L}) = H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n)).$

Proof. We proceed by induction on  $n$ . The result holds for  $n = 1$  by the previous lemmas. Suppose  $n \geq 2$  and the theorem is true for  $n-1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{m}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}(\mathcal{L}) &= \hat{m}_{\alpha_n}(\hat{m}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{n-1}}(\mathcal{L})), \text{ by definition,} \\ &= \hat{m}_{\alpha_n}(\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{n-1}))), \text{ by induction,} \\ &= \hat{H}(\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)), \text{ by induction.} \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} &\hat{H}[\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)] \\ &\supseteq \hat{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)] \\ &= \hat{H}[\hat{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)]] \\ &\supseteq \hat{H}[\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})) \wedge \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n))], \text{ by Theorem 1.2 c,} \\ &= \hat{H}[\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\hat{m}_{s_1 \dots s_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{H}[\hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_{n-1})) \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_n)]$   
 $= \hat{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_n)].$

In a similar manner,

$$\begin{aligned} m_{s_1 \dots s_n}(\mathcal{L}) &= m_{s_n}(m_{s_1 \dots s_{n-1}}(\mathcal{L})) \\ &= m_{s_n}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_{n-1}))] \\ &= \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_{n-1})) \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_n)] \\ &= \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_n)]. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $m_{s_1 \dots s_n}^t(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{H}[\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(s_n)].$

As a corollary, we get

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $(\Omega_1, s_1), \dots, (\Omega_n, s_n)$  be single-tape AFA and  $\mathcal{L}$  an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ . Then  $\hat{m}_{s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{m}_{s_1 \dots s_n}(\mathcal{L})$  and

$$m_{s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n}^t(\mathcal{L}) = m_{s_1 \dots s_n}^t(\mathcal{L}).$$

**Proof.**  $\hat{m}_{s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n)),$  by Theorem 3.1,  
 $= \hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}(s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n))),$  by Theorem 2.1,  
 $= \hat{H}(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}(s_n)),$  as shown in the  
proof of Theorem 3.1,  
 $= \hat{m}_{s_1 \dots s_n}(\mathcal{L}),$  by Theorem 3.1.

The proof that  $m_{s_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n}^t(\mathcal{L}) = m_{s_1 \dots s_n}^t(\mathcal{L})$  follows similarly.

Remark. Theorem 3.2 asserts that the composition of single-tape transducers is equivalent to a multitape transducer, from the point of view of families of sets produced as output by (1) all transducers, and (2)  $\epsilon$ -input bounded and  $\epsilon$ -output bounded transducers. In general, however,

$m_{\mathcal{S}_1 \dots \mathcal{S}_n}(\mathcal{L}) \neq m_{\mathcal{S}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{S}_n}(\mathcal{L})$ . For, let  $\mathcal{L}$  be the family of regular sets

and  $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{S}_2 = \mathcal{S}_p$ , the family of pda. Then

$$m_{\mathcal{S}_p \wedge \mathcal{S}_p}(\mathcal{L}) = H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p \wedge \mathcal{S}_p)) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p \wedge \mathcal{S}_p),$$

which is the family of all r.e. sets. Since  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p)$  [14],

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\mathcal{S}_p \mathcal{S}_p}(\mathcal{L}) &= H(\mathcal{L} \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p)) \\ &= H(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_p)) \\ &= H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p)). \end{aligned}$$

Now  $H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p))$  contains only recursive sets (in fact, only context-sensitive languages and context-sensitive languages union  $\{\epsilon\}$ ). Thus

$m_{\mathcal{S}_p \mathcal{S}_p}(\mathcal{L})$  is a proper subfamily of  $m_{\mathcal{S}_p \wedge \mathcal{S}_p}(\mathcal{L})$ .

Example. The list languages have already been characterized as each of the following families:

(1) The  $\epsilon$ -free sets which are recognized by quasi-realtime 2-pda acceptors.

(2) The  $\epsilon$ -free sets which are the  $\epsilon$ -free homomorphic image of the intersection of quasi-realtime pda languages, i.e., the  $\epsilon$ -free sets in  $H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_p))$ .

(3) The sets obtained from context-free control sets acting on  $\epsilon$ -free context-free grammars.

Using the previous theorems we may add the following characterizations:

(4) The  $\epsilon$ -free sets obtained from partially  $\epsilon$ -output bounded pushdown transducers operating on context-free languages, i.e., the  $\epsilon$ -free sets in  $m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) = H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_p)) = H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ .

(5) The  $\epsilon$ -free sets obtained from  $\epsilon$ -output bounded and  $\epsilon$ -input bounded pushdown transducers operating on context-free languages, i.e., the  $\epsilon$ -free sets in  $m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) = H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ .

(6) The  $\epsilon$ -free sets obtained from  $\epsilon$ -output-free pushdown transducers operating on context-free languages. [For, let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the set obtained from  $\epsilon$ -output-free pushdown transducers acting on context-free languages. It can be shown that  $m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) \subseteq \mathcal{F} \subseteq m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ , the second containment by a recoding argument. Since  $m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) = H(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p) \wedge \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p)) = m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = m_p^t(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_p))$ .

#### Section 4. Nested Multitape AFA

In this section we study "nested" multitape AFA. We shall see that they allow a representation of the substitution of AFL into AFL.

Intuitively, a multitape acceptor is "nested" if each move can change at most one storage tape, and all tapes to the right of this one are  $\epsilon$ . In order to express these two conditions in our formalism we need to distinguish

identity instructions in our acceptors. More precisely, we have

Notation. For each  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$ , let  $\psi_\alpha(\gamma) = \{u \text{ in } I_\alpha / f_\alpha(\gamma', u) = \gamma' \text{ for all } \gamma' \text{ in } g_\alpha^{-1}(\gamma)\}$ , where  $g_\alpha^{-1}(\gamma) = \{\gamma'' / \gamma \text{ in } g_\alpha(\gamma'')\}$ .

By definition of an AFA schema,  $\psi_\alpha(\gamma) \neq \emptyset$  for each  $\gamma \text{ in } g_\alpha(\Gamma_\alpha^*)$ .

We are now able to define a "nested" multitape AFA.

Definition. A nested multitape AFA is a pair  $(\Omega, \mathcal{S}^N)$ , where

- (1)  $(\Omega, \mathcal{S})$  is a multitape AFA, with  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, Q, <, \mu)$ ,  
 and (2)  $\mathcal{S}^N$  is the set of all  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k))$  in  $\mathcal{S}$  with the following property (for arbitrary  $q', q \text{ in } K_1, a \text{ in } \Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}, (u_1, \dots, u_k) \text{ in } I_{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times I_{\alpha_k}$ , and  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k) \text{ in } G_D$ ): If  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$  and  $u_\ell$  is not in  $\psi_{\alpha_\ell}(\gamma_\ell)$  for some  $\ell$ , then  $u_1$  is in  $\psi_{\alpha_1}(\gamma_1)$  for all  $i \neq \ell$  and  $\gamma_i = \epsilon$  for all  $i > \ell$ .

Each  $D \text{ in } \mathcal{S}^N$  is called a nested acceptor.

Notation. Let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}^N) = \{L(D)/D \text{ in } \mathcal{S}^N\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}^N) = \{L(D)/D \text{ in } \mathcal{S}^N \text{ and } D \text{ quasi-realtime}\}$ .

Note that if  $D$  is nested and  $(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)) \vdash (q', \epsilon, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_k))$ , then there is at most one  $\ell$  with  $\gamma_\ell \neq \gamma'_\ell$ , and either  $\ell = k$  or  $\gamma_1 = \epsilon = \gamma'_1$  for  $i > \ell$ . Thus at most one tape of  $D$  is changed and all tapes to the right of it are inactive, i.e., are  $\epsilon$ .

The meaning of the term "nested" becomes clearer if we consider some familiar AFA. Suppose an acceptor such as a pda, a Turing acceptor, or a one-way stack acceptor [6] has the storage configuration depicted in Figure 1,

that is, a tape with a read-write head which affects exactly one symbol of the storage tape. This type of configuration is usually reflected in the

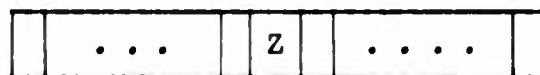


Figure 1

formalism by a pointer symbol, say  $\uparrow$ , and the definition  $g(xZ\uparrow y) = Z$ , where  $Z$  is a symbol and  $x$  and  $y$  are words which may have other restrictions. (In a pda,  $y = \epsilon$ ; see Example 4 in [5] for the definition of a one-way stack acceptor.)

In these cases, activating a tape is equivalent to inserting a new tape, initially  $\epsilon$ , enclosed in markers--say matched brackets--where the read-write head is. The nesting condition says that the head cannot leave the bracketed tape until the bracketed tape becomes  $\epsilon$ . This is equivalent to preventing the multitape AFA from changing a tape until all tapes to the right are inactive. Restricting the device to  $n$  tapes is equivalent to restricting the depth of the nesting of brackets to  $n$ . For pda and Turing acceptors, nesting does not affect the computational power of the type of device. For one-way stack acceptors, we shall see later (Example 3) that nesting increases the computational power. We shall show in this section that nesting of devices is related to substitution in languages.

From the definition, it is clear that  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}^N$  for each single-tape AFA. However, in general a nested multitape AFA need not be a multitape AFA as

defined in Section 1. To motivate the use of the word "AFA: after "nested multitape," we now show that a nested multitape AFA is equivalent (from the sets accepted point of view) to a single-tape AFA.

Lemma 4.1. For each nested multitape AFA  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A}^N)$ , there exists a single-tape AFA  $(\bar{\Omega}, \bar{\mathfrak{A}})$  such that  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\bar{\mathfrak{A}}) = \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}^N)$  and  $\mathfrak{L}(\bar{\mathfrak{A}}) = \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}^N)$ .

Proof. Let  $\xi, \sigma(v)$ ,  $\bar{\Gamma}$  and  $\bar{g}$  be as in the proof of Lemma 1.1. For  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq k$ , and  $u$  in  $I_{\alpha_l}$ , let  $\sigma(v, l, u)$  be a new symbol and

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \{\sigma(v, l, u) / v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k), 1 \leq l \leq k, u \text{ in } I_{\alpha_l}\} \cup \{\sigma(v) / \text{all } v\} \cup \{\epsilon\}.$$

For  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ , let  $\bar{f}(\epsilon, \sigma(v)) = \sigma(v)\xi^{k+1}$ ,  $\bar{f}(\sigma(v)\xi^{k+1}, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ , and  $\bar{f}(\epsilon, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ . For  $v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ ,  $(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  in  $\Gamma_{\alpha_1}^* \times \dots \times \Gamma_{\alpha_k}^*$ ,  $l$  such that either  $l = k$  or  $x_l = \epsilon$  for all  $i > l$ , and  $u$  in  $I_{\alpha_l}$ , let

$$\bar{f}(\sigma(v)\xi x_1\xi \dots x_k\xi, \sigma(v, l, u)) = \sigma(v)\xi x'_1\xi \dots x'_k\xi,$$

where  $x'_1 = x_1$  for all  $i$ ,  $i \neq l$ , and  $x'_l = f_{\alpha_l}(x_l, u)$ . By the same reasoning as in Lemma 1.1,  $(\bar{\Gamma}, \bar{\Gamma}, \bar{f}, \bar{g})$  is an AFA-schema. Let  $\bar{\Omega} = (K, \Sigma, \bar{\Gamma}, \bar{\Gamma}, \bar{f}, \bar{g})$ .

Let  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  be in  $\mathfrak{A}^N$ . Let  $\bar{q}_0$  and  $r_0$  be new symbols in  $K$  and  $\bar{D} = (K_1 \cup \{\bar{q}_0, r_0\}, \Sigma_1, \bar{\delta}, \bar{q}_0, \{r_0\})$ , where  $\bar{\delta}$  is defined as follows:

$$(1) \quad \bar{\delta}(\bar{q}_0, \epsilon, \epsilon) = \{(q_0, \sigma(v))\}.$$

$$(2) \quad (r_0, \epsilon) \text{ is in } \bar{\delta}(p, \epsilon, \sigma(v)\xi^{k+1}) \text{ for each } p \text{ in } F.$$

$$(3) \quad \text{If } (q', (u_1, \dots, u_k)) \text{ is in } \delta(q, a, (v_1, \dots, v_k)), \text{ then}$$

$\bar{\delta}(q, a, \sigma(v)\xi v_1\xi \dots v_k\xi)$  contains



- (a)  $(q', \sigma(v, l, u_l))$  if  $\gamma_1 = \epsilon$  and  $u_1$  is in  $\psi_{\alpha_1}(\epsilon)$  for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .
- (b)  $(q', \sigma(v, l, u_l))$  if  $\gamma_l \neq \epsilon$ ,  $\gamma_i = \epsilon$  for all  $i > l$ , and  $u_1$  is in  $\psi_{\alpha_1}(\gamma_1)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .
- (c)  $(q', \sigma(v, l, u_l))$  if  $u_l$  is not in  $\psi_{\alpha_l}(\gamma_l)$ ,  $u_1$  is in  $\psi_{\alpha_1}(\gamma_1)$  for all  $i \neq l$ , and  $\gamma_i = \epsilon$  for all  $i > l$ .

Clearly  $L(D) = L(\bar{D})$  and  $\bar{D}$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is.

Now let  $\bar{D} = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F)$  be in  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . Let

$$S = \{v / (q', \sigma(v)) \text{ in } \delta(q, a, \epsilon) \text{ for some } q \text{ and } a\}.$$

As in the proof of Lemma 1.1, we may assume that there exists  $v_0 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  such that if  $v$  is in  $S$  then  $v = (\alpha_{j_1}, \dots, \alpha_{j_k})$  for some  $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$ .

We may also assume that if  $(q', \sigma(v_1, l, u))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \sigma(v_2) \xi \gamma_1 \xi \dots \gamma_k \xi)$ , then  $v_1 = v_2 = (\alpha_{j_1}, \dots, \alpha_{j_k})$  is in  $S$ ,  $u$  is in  $I_{\alpha_{j_l}}$ ,  $\gamma_i$  is in  $\xi_{\alpha_{j_i}}(\Gamma_{\alpha_{j_i}}^*)$  for

$1 \leq i \leq k$ , and  $\gamma_i = \epsilon$  for  $i > l$ . Let  $D = (K_1 \times (S \cup \{\epsilon\}), \Sigma_1, \delta_1, (q_0, \epsilon), F \times \{\epsilon\}, v_0)$ , where  $\delta_1$  is defined as follows (for arbitrary  $v = (\alpha_{j_1}, \dots, \alpha_{j_k})$ ):

$$(4) \quad ((q', \epsilon), (l_{\alpha_1}, \dots, l_{\alpha_n})) \text{ is in } \delta_1((q, \epsilon), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \text{ if } (q', \epsilon)$$

is in  $\delta(q, a, \epsilon)$ .

$$(5) \quad ((q', \epsilon), (l_{\alpha_1}, \dots, l_{\alpha_n})) \text{ is in } \delta_1((q, v), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \text{ if } (q', \epsilon)$$

is in  $\delta(q, a, \sigma(v) \xi^{k+1})$ .

(6)  $((q', v), (l_{\alpha_1}, \dots, l_{\alpha_n}))$  is in  $\delta_1((q, \epsilon), a, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $(q', \sigma(v))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \epsilon)$ .

(7)  $((q', v), (u'_1, \dots, u'_n))$  is in  $\delta_1((q, v), a, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_n))$  if  $(q', \sigma(v, l, u))$  is in  $\delta(q, a, \sigma(v) \xi \gamma_{j_1} \xi \dots \gamma_{j_k} \xi)$ , where  $\gamma_{j_i} = \epsilon$  for all  $i > l$ ,  $u'_{j_1} = l(\alpha_{j_1}, \gamma_{j_1})$  for all  $i \neq l$ ,  $u'_{j_l} = u$ , and  $\gamma'_j = \epsilon$  and  $u'_j = l_{\alpha_j}$  for all  $j$  not in  $\{j_1, \dots, j_k\}$ .

Then  $L(D) = L(\bar{D})$  and  $D$  is quasi-realtime if  $\bar{D}$  is.

From Lemma 4.1 there immediately follows

Theorem 4.1. For each nested multitape AFA  $\mathfrak{A}^N$ ,  $\mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}^N)$  is a full AFL and  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}^N)$  is an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ .

We now present some definitions and remarks about substitution, the operation to be associated with nesting.

Definition. Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$  and for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$  let  $L_a \subseteq \Sigma_a^*$ . Let  $\tau$  be the function defined on  $\Sigma_1^*$  by  $\tau(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$ ,  $\tau(a) = L_a$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ , and  $\tau(a_1 \dots a_n) = \tau(a_1) \dots \tau(a_n)$  for each  $a_i$  in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $k \geq 1$ . Then  $\tau$  is called a substitution.  $\tau$  is extended to  $2^{\Sigma_1^*}$  by defining  $\tau(X) = \bigcup_{x \in X} \tau(x)$  for all  $X \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ . If  $\tau(a) \subseteq \Sigma_a^+$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ , then  $\tau$  is called  $\epsilon$ -free.

Notation. Let  $\mathfrak{L}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{L}_2$  be families of languages. Let  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathfrak{L}_1, \mathfrak{L}_2)$  ( $\sigma(\mathfrak{L}_1, \mathfrak{L}_2)$ ) be the family of all sets  $\tau(L_1)$ , where  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$  is in  $\mathfrak{L}_1$  and  $\tau$  is a ( $\epsilon$ -free) substitution such that  $\tau(a)$  is in  $\mathfrak{L}_2$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ .

We usually write  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2)$  as  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2$  and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2)$  as  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$ .

Remarks. (1) Let  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  be families of languages. Let  $\mathcal{I}_2 =$

$\{L \text{ in } \mathcal{L}_2 / \epsilon \text{ not in } L\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{I}_2$ . Note that  $\mathcal{I}_2$  is an AFL if  $\mathcal{L}_2$  is.

(2) It was shown in [13] that  $\hat{\sigma}$  is associative on families of languages closed under isomorphism, i.e.,  $(\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_3 = \mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} (\mathcal{L}_2 \sigma \mathcal{L}_3)$  if  $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_3$  are families of languages closed under isomorphism. The same proof shows that  $\sigma$  is associative on such families of languages. Because of this associativity, we shall omit the parentheses in iterated applications of  $\sigma$ , resp.  $\hat{\sigma}$ , when the underlying families are closed under isomorphism, as in AFL.

(3) Neither  $\sigma$  nor  $\hat{\sigma}$  is commutative, even on AFL, i.e., both  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_2 \sigma \mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_2 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_1$  are false for AFL  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$ . For let  $\mathcal{L}_1$  be the quasi-realtime one-way stack languages and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  the context-free languages. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2 \sigma \mathcal{L}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1$ , but  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1$  is false [16]. The situation for  $\hat{\sigma}$  follows from that for  $\sigma$  by Remark 1. [A separate example for  $\hat{\sigma}$  is to let  $\mathcal{L}_1$  be the recursive sets and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  the regular sets. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{L}_1$ , but  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2$  is the family of r.e. sets and thus not  $\mathcal{L}_1$ .

(4) If  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  are AFL, with  $\mathcal{L}_1$  full, then  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$

Proof. Clearly  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$ . To see the reverse containment, let  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$  be in  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\tau$  a substitution such that  $\tau(a)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_2$  for all  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ . Let  $\tau_1$  be the substitution on  $\Sigma_1^*$  defined by  $\tau_1(a) = \{a\}$  if  $\epsilon$  is not in  $\tau(a)$  and  $\tau_1(a) = \{a, \epsilon\}$  if  $\epsilon$  is in  $\tau(a)$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}_1$  is a full AFL,  $\tau_1(L_1)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_1$ . Let

$\tau_2$  be the substitution on  $\Sigma_1^*$  defined by  $\tau_2(a) = \tau(a) - \{\epsilon\}$  for each  $a$ . Then  $\tau_2(a)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_2$  for each  $a$ . Thus  $\tau(L_1) = \tau_2(\tau_1(L_1))$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2$ , so that  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1 \sigma \mathcal{L}_2$ .

(5) If  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  are AFL, with  $\mathcal{L}_2$  containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 = \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 = \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \sigma \mathcal{L}_2.$$

Proof. Since  $\hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1)$  is a full AFL,  $\hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 = \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \sigma \mathcal{L}_2$  by Remark 4. Obviously  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$ . To see the reverse inequality, let  $L_1$  be in  $\mathcal{L}_1$ ,  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ ,  $h$  a homomorphism of  $\Sigma_1^*$  into  $\Sigma_2^*$ , and  $\tau$  a substitution on  $\Sigma_2^*$  such that  $\tau(a)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_2$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_2$ . Let  $c$  be a new symbol and  $\bar{\tau}$  the substitution on  $(\Sigma_2 \cup \{c\})^*$  defined by  $\bar{\tau}(a) = \tau(a)$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_2$  and  $\bar{\tau}(c) = \{\epsilon\}$ . Let  $\bar{h}$  be the homomorphism on  $\Sigma_1^*$  defined by (i)  $\bar{h}(a) = h(a)$  if  $a$  is in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $h(a) \neq \epsilon$ , and (ii)  $\bar{h}(a) = c$  if  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $h(a) = \epsilon$ . Since  $\bar{h}$  is  $\epsilon$ -free,  $\bar{h}(L_1)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_1$ . Clearly  $\tau(h(L_1)) = \bar{\tau}(\bar{h}(L_1))$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$ . Thus  $\hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$  and the proof is complete.

We now present two lemmas that play the roles of Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2 of Section 2.

Lemma 4.2. Let  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  be multitape AFA and  $\mathcal{A}_3 = \mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2$ . Then

$$\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_2^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_3^N)$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_2^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_3^N).$$

Proof. Let  $\Omega_i = (K, \Sigma, \alpha_i, <, \mu_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $D_1 = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta_1, q_0, F_1, \nu_1)$  be in  $\mathcal{A}_1^N$  and for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$  let  $D_a = (K_a, \Sigma_a, \delta_a, q_a, F_a, \nu_a)$  be in  $\mathcal{A}_2^N$ . We may

assume that  $K_1 \cap K_a = K_a \cap K_b$  for all  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $a \neq b$ , in  $\Sigma_1$ . By extending each  $v_a$  if necessary, we may assume that there exists  $v_2 = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$  such that  $v_a = v_2$  for all  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ . Let  $\tau$  be the substitution on  $\Sigma_1^*$  defined by  $\tau(a) = L(D_a)$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ . We shall construct  $D_3$  in  $\mathcal{S}_3^N$  such that  $L(D_3) = \tau(L(D_1))$ .

Let  $D_3 = (K_3, \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma_1} \Sigma_a, \delta_3, q_0, F_1, v_3)$ , where  $K_3 = K_1 \cup \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma_1} (K_1 \times K_a)$ ,

$v_3 = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ , and  $\delta_3$  is defined as follows (for each  $q$  in  $K_1$ ,  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ , and  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G_{D_1}$ ):

- (1) Let  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k, l_{\beta_1}, \dots, l_{\beta_\ell}))$  be in  $\delta_3(q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_1(q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ .
- (2) Let  $((q, q_a), (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), l_{\beta_1}, \dots, l_{\beta_\ell}))$  be in  $\delta_3(q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ .
- (3) Let  $((q, p'), (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), u_1, \dots, u_\ell))$  be in  $\delta_3((q, p), b, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$  if  $(p', (u_1, \dots, u_\ell))$  is in  $\delta_a(p, b, (\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ , where  $p$  is in  $K_a$ ,  $b$  in  $\Sigma_a$ , and  $(\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell)$  in  $G_{D_a}$ .
- (4) Let  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k, l_{\beta_1}, \dots, l_{\beta_\ell}))$  be in  $\delta_3((q, p), \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $p$  is in  $F_a$  and  $(q', (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\delta_1(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k))$ .

Clearly  $L(D_3) = \tau(L(D_1))$ . Since  $D_1$  and the  $D_a$  are nested, so is  $D_3$ . If  $D_1$  and the  $D_a$  are quasi-realtime, and  $\tau$  is  $\epsilon$ -free, then  $D_3$  is quasi-realtime.

(For if  $D_1$  has at most  $k_1$   $\epsilon$ -moves and each  $D_a$  at most  $k_a$ , then  $D_3$  has at most  $2\max\{k_a/a\} + k_1 + 2$  consecutive  $\epsilon$ -moves).

The reverse inclusions of Lemma 4.2 are also true. That is, we have

Lemma 4.3. Under the hypotheses of Lemma 4.2,

$$\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_3^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_2^N)$$

and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_3^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N).$

The proof of Lemma 4.3 is quite involved and is not especially enlightening. As such, it is given in the appendix.

Lemma 4.4. Let  $(\Omega_1, \mathfrak{a}_1), \dots, (\Omega_n, \mathfrak{a}_n)$  be multitape AFA, with  $n \geq 2$ . Then

$$\mathcal{L}^t((\mathfrak{a}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{a}_n)^N) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_n^N)$$

and 
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}((\mathfrak{a}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathfrak{a}_n)^N) &= \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_n^N) \\ &= \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_n^N) \\ &= \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} (\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_n^N)). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Suppose  $n=2$ . By Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3,

$$\mathcal{L}^t((\mathfrak{a}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{a}_2)^N) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_2^N)$$

and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}((\mathfrak{a}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{a}_2)^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N).$

Since  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N),$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) &= \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) = \mathcal{L}((\mathfrak{a}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{a}_2)^N) \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N)) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N) \\ &= \mathcal{L}^t(\mathfrak{a}_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{a}_2^N), \text{ by Remark 5 following} \end{aligned}$$

the definition of substitution.

Continuing by induction, suppose the result is true for  $n-1 \geq 2$ .

Consider  $n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f^t((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n)^N) &= f^t((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_{n-1})^N) \sigma f^t(a_n^N), \text{ by induction,} \\ &= f^t(a_1^N) \sigma \dots \sigma f^t(a_{n-1}^N) \sigma f^t(a_n^N), \text{ by induction,} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } f((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n)^N) &= f((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_{n-1})^N) \sigma f(a_n^N), \text{ by induction,} \\ &= (f(a_1^N) \sigma \dots \sigma f(a_{n-1}^N)) \sigma f(a_n^N), \text{ by induction,} \\ &= f(a_1^N) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} f(a_n^N), \text{ by Remark 5,} \\ &= \hat{H}(f^t(a_1^N)) \hat{\sigma} (f(a_2^N) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} f(a_n^N)), \text{ by Remark 5,} \\ &= \hat{H}(f^t(a_1^N)) \hat{\sigma} (f(a_2^N) \sigma \dots \sigma f(a_n^N)), \text{ by induction,} \\ &= f^t(a_1^N) \hat{\sigma} (f(a_2^N) \sigma \dots \sigma f(a_n^N)), \text{ by Remark 5.} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $a^N = a$  for a single-tape AFA, we immediately get

Theorem 4.2. Let  $(\Omega_1, a_1), \dots, (\Omega_n, a_n)$  be single-tape AFA, with  $n \geq 2$ . Then

$$f^t((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n)^N) = f^t(a_1) \sigma f^t(a_2) \sigma \dots \sigma f^t(a_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } f((a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n)^N) &= f(a_1) \hat{\sigma} f(a_2) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} f(a_n) \\ &= f(a_1) \sigma f(a_2) \sigma \dots \sigma f(a_n) \\ &= f^t(a_1) \hat{\sigma} (f(a_2) \sigma \dots \sigma f(a_n)). \end{aligned}$$

From Theorem 4.2, we derive

Corollary 1. If  $f_1, \dots, f_n, n \geq 2$ , are AFL, then so is  $f_1 \sigma f_2 \sigma \dots \sigma f_n$ .

Proof. By induction, it suffices to show the result for  $n=2$ .

Consider  $n=2$ . There exist single-tape AFA  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$  such that

$\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) = \mathfrak{L}_1 \cup \{LU\{\epsilon\}/L \text{ in } \mathfrak{L}_1\}$  for each  $i$  [5]. By Theorem 4.2,

$$\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2) = \mathfrak{L}^t((\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)^N),$$

so that  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)$  is an AFL. By definition of the operation  $\sigma$  ( $\epsilon$ -free substitution),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2) &= \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2 \\ &= (\mathfrak{L}_1 \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2) \cup (\{LU\{\epsilon\}/L \text{ in } \mathfrak{L}_1\} \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathfrak{L}_1$  contains  $\epsilon$ , then  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2 = \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)$ . If  $\mathfrak{L}_1$  does not contain  $\{\epsilon\}$ , then  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2 = \{L-\{\epsilon\}/L \text{ in } \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_2)\}$ .

In either case,  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2$  is an AFL.

Corollary 2. If  $\mathfrak{L}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{L}_n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , are AFL, then so is  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2 \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_n$ .

Proof. Again it suffices to consider the case  $n=2$ . If  $\mathfrak{L}_2$  does not contain  $\{\epsilon\}$ , then  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2 = \mathfrak{L}_1 \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2$ . If  $\mathfrak{L}_2$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$ , then  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2 = \hat{H}(\mathfrak{L}_1) \sigma \mathfrak{L}_2$  by Remark 5.

In either case,  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2$  is an AFL by Corollary 1.

Corollary 3. If  $\mathfrak{L}_1$  is an AFL and  $\mathfrak{L}_2$  is a full AFL, then  $\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2$  is a full AFL.

Proof. Let  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$  be AFA such that  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) = \mathfrak{L}_1 \cup \{LU\{\epsilon\}/L \text{ in } \mathfrak{L}_1\}$  and  $\mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2) = \mathfrak{L}_2$ .

By Theorem 4.2,  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2) = \mathfrak{L}((\mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2)^N)$ , so that  $\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2)$  is a full AFL. Now

$$\mathfrak{L}^t(\mathfrak{A}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{A}_2) = (\mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2) \cup \{LU\{\epsilon\}/L \text{ in } \mathfrak{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathfrak{L}_2\}.$$



By Corollary 2,  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$  is an AFL. Since  $\{\epsilon\}$  is in  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2$  ( $\{\epsilon\} = \tau(\{a\})$  for the substitution  $\tau(a) = \{\epsilon\}$ ),  $\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_2)$ .

Remark. Corollaries 2 and 3 were proved in [13] by different methods. By Remark 1 of Section 4, Corollary 2 implies Corollary 1.

Corollary 4. Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{L})$  be a multitape AFA, with  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, \mathcal{Q}, <, \mu)$ . Then

$$\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}^N) = \bigcup_{\substack{n \geq 2 \\ \alpha_1 \text{ in } \mathcal{Q} \\ \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_n}} \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_1}) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_n})$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^N) = \bigcup_{\substack{n \geq 2 \\ \alpha_1 \text{ in } \mathcal{Q} \\ \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_n}} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_1}) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_n}).$$

If  $\mathcal{Q}$  is finite, say  $\mathcal{Q} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}^N) = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_1}) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_n})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^N) &= \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_1}) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_n}) \\ &= \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_1}) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_{\alpha_n}). \end{aligned}$$

We now turn to the representation of the "substitution closure" of  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L})$ .

Notation. For each family of languages  $\mathcal{L}$ , let

(a)  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$  and closed under  $\epsilon$ -free substitution.

(b)  $\hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L})$  be the smallest full AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}$  and closed under substitution.

(c)  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \sigma_n(\mathcal{L})$ , where  $\sigma_1(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L} \sigma \mathcal{L}$  and  $\sigma_{i+1}(\mathcal{L}) = \sigma_i(\mathcal{L}) \sigma \mathcal{L}$  for each  $i \geq 1$ .

(d)  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L})$ , where  $\hat{\sigma}_1(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L} \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{i+1}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\sigma}_i(\mathcal{L}) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}$  for each  $i \geq 1$ .

Thus  $\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})(\hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}))$  is the  $\epsilon$ -free substitution (substitution) closure AFL generated by  $\mathcal{L}$ .  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L})$  ( $\hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L})$ ) is the "n-th level of  $\epsilon$ -free substitution (arbitrary substitution) of  $\mathcal{L}$  into itself."

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL, then from Remark 2 following the definition of substitution,  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L} \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}$  (n occurrences of  $\sigma$ ) and  $\hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L} \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}$  (n occurrences of  $\hat{\sigma}$ ).

We now present the result relating substitution closure and nested multitape AFA.

Theorem 4.3. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a single-tape AFA. Then

$$\mathcal{L}^t((\wedge \mathcal{A})^N) = \sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{L}((\wedge \mathcal{A})^N) = \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}))$$

$$= \sigma(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})).$$

Proof. For each  $i \geq 1$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_i = \mathcal{A}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{L}^t((\wedge \mathcal{A})^N) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{L}^t((\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}_n)^N)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_n), \text{ by Theorem 4.2,} \\
&= \sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{and } \mathcal{L}((\wedge \mathcal{A})^N) &= \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{L}((\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{A}_n)^N) \\
&= \bigcup_{n \geq 1} (\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)), \text{ by Theorem 4.2,} \\
&= \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) \\
&= \bigcup_{n \geq 1} (\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \sigma \dots \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_n)), \text{ by Theorem 4.2,} \\
&= \sigma(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{L}^t((\wedge \mathcal{A})^N)$  is an AFL containing  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})$  and closed under  $\epsilon$ -free substitution,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . Obviously  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ , so that  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}))$ . By similar reasoning,  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}))$  and  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}))$ , completing the proof.

Corollary 1. For each AFL  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L})$ , and  $\sigma(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  are AFL.

Proof. By Corollary 1 of Theorem 4.2,  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L})$  is an AFL for each  $n \geq 1$ . Since  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \sigma_{n+1}(\mathcal{L})$  for each  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \sigma_n(\mathcal{L})$  is an AFL. Similarly, using

Corollary 2 of Theorem 4.2,  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is an AFL.

Clearly  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L})$  for each  $n \geq 1$ . Thus  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L})$ . Since  $\sigma(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under  $\epsilon$ -free substitution,  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{L})$ , whence equality.

Remark. (1)  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  need not be a full AFL. For let  $\mathcal{L}$  be the family of context-sensitive languages. Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}$ , but  $\mathcal{L}$  is not a full AFL. The next corollary shows that  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL if  $\mathcal{L}$  is a full AFL.

(2) It was shown in [13] that  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is an AFL if  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL.

Corollary 2. If  $\mathcal{L}$  is a full AFL, then  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL.

Proof. By Remark 4 following the definition of substitution and by Corollary 3 of Theorem 4.2,  $\hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L}) = \sigma_n(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL for each  $n \geq 1$ . Thus  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \sigma_n(\mathcal{L}) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$ . Since each  $\hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma}_{n+1}(\mathcal{L})$  for each  $n \geq 1$ ,

$\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL. Clearly  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L})$ . Since  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under substitution  $\hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$ . Hence  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L})$ . Similarly  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ .

Remark. It was shown in [13] that  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L})$ , if  $\mathcal{L}$  is a full AFL.

Corollary 3. If  $\mathcal{L}$  is an  $\epsilon$ -free AFL, then  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ . If  $\mathcal{L}$  is an AFL containing  $\{\epsilon\}$ , then

$$\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$$

and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL.

Proof. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be an AFL. If  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\epsilon$ -free, then  $\sigma_n(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\sigma}_n(\mathcal{L})$  for each  $n$ , so that  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \sigma(\mathcal{L})$ . By Corollary 1,  $\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ .

Suppose  $\mathcal{L}$  contains  $\{\epsilon\}$ . Clearly  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{J}} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$ . By Corollary 2,  $\hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL. Thus

$$\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{J} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$$

and  $\hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L})$  is a full AFL. It thus suffices to show that  $\hat{\sigma} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$ . Now

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{L}) \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}$$

$$= \mathcal{L} \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}, \text{ since } \mathcal{L} \text{ contains } \{\epsilon\} \text{ (by Remark 5 following the definition of substitution).}$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}_i = \mathcal{L}$  for each  $i \geq 1$ . Then for each  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}_{n+1}) &\subseteq (\mathcal{L}_1 \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_1) \hat{\sigma} \dots \hat{\sigma} (\mathcal{L}_{n+1} \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_{n+1}) \\ &\subseteq \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\hat{\sigma} \hat{H}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L})$ .

Remark. It was shown in [13] that  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L})$  if  $\mathcal{L}$  is an  $\epsilon$ -free AFL.

Examples. (1) Counters. In [15] the notion of a 1-counter acceptor is generalized to that of a pda whose storage configurations are limited to the bounded regular sets  $Z_0 A_1^* \dots A_n^*$ . This device is easily seen to be equivalent to a nested acceptor with  $n$  counters. Given  $n \geq 0$ , the family of languages defined by  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{L}_n)^N$ , each  $\mathcal{L}_i$  a 1-counter AFL, is denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_{n,w}$  and  $\mathcal{L}((\wedge \mathcal{L}_1)^N)$  by  $\mathcal{F}_{\infty,w}$  [15]. It is shown that  $\mathcal{F}_{n,w}$  is properly contained in  $\mathcal{F}_{n+1,w}$  for each  $n \geq 0$ . By Theorem 4.2,  $\mathcal{F}_{n+m,w} = \mathcal{F}_{n,w} \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{F}_{m,w} = \mathcal{F}_{n,w} \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{F}_{m,w}$  for all  $n, m \geq 1$ . By Theorem 4.3,  $\mathcal{F}_{\infty,w} = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{F}_{1,w})$ .

(2) Linear context-free languages. A family that has recently been studied from three different viewpoints is  $\mathcal{L} = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{H}_\ell)$ , where  $\mathcal{H}_\ell$  is the family of linear context-free languages. Note that  $\mathcal{H}_\ell$  is not an AFL since it is not closed under concatenation.  $\mathcal{L}$  is called the "standard matching choice languages" [21], the "quasi-rational languages" [20], and the "derivation-bounded languages" [12]. Yntema and Nivat, independently, proved that  $\mathcal{L}$  is properly contained in the context-free languages. Theorem 4.3 allows us to give a fairly simple acceptor realization for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}_{w,1} = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\{w c w / w \text{ in } \{a,b\}^*\})$ .  $\mathcal{F}_{w,1}$  is the smallest full AFL

containing  $\mathcal{H}_\ell$  [2, 15, 20]. Thus  $\mathcal{L} = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{F}_{w,1})$ . Let  $K$  be an infinite denumerable set. Let  $\xi$  be a new symbol and  $\Gamma$  an infinite set containing  $\xi$ . Let  $I = (\Gamma - \{\xi\})^*$ . Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{D})$ , with  $\Omega = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, I, f, g)$ , be the (single-tape) AFA where  $f$  and  $g$  are defined as follows (for all  $w$  in  $(\Gamma - \{\xi\})^*$ ,  $y$  in  $(\Gamma - \{\xi\})^+$ , and  $Y, Z$  in  $\Gamma - \{\xi\}$ ):

- (1)  $g(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$  and  $g(wZ) = g(\xi wZ) = Z$ .
- (2)  $f(wZ, y) = wy$ ,  $f(\epsilon, w) = w$ ,  $f(\xi wZ, Y) = \xi wY$ , and  $f(\xi Z, \epsilon) = f(Z, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ .
- (3)  $f(wZ, \epsilon) = f(\xi wZ, \epsilon) = \xi w$  for  $w \neq \epsilon$ .

Clearly  $(\Omega, \mathcal{D})$  is a one-turn bounded pda AFA, that is, each  $D$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  can make at most one turn (i.e., the length of the storage configuration changes at most once from increasing to decreasing) before returning to the storage configuration  $\epsilon$  [10, 15]. It is shown in [15] that  $\mathcal{F}_{w,1} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})$ . It can also be shown, although not done here, that  $\mathcal{F}_{w,1} = \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D})$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{F}_{w,1}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{n+1} = \mathcal{L}_n \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_1$  for each  $n \geq 1$ . (Each  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is the family of quasi-rational languages of order  $n$  [20].) By Theorem 4.3,  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}((\wedge \mathcal{D})^N) = \bigcup_n \mathcal{L}_n = \sigma(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D})) = \sigma(\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D})) = \mathcal{L}^t((\wedge \mathcal{D})^N)$ . By Theorem 4.2, each  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is a full AFL. A result of Greibach [17] asserts that if  $\mathcal{L}_1$  is not closed under substitution, then each  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is properly contained in  $\mathcal{L}_{n+1}$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}_1) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_\ell) = \mathcal{L}$  is properly contained in the family of context-free languages.

(3) One-way stack languages. Let  $(\Omega_S, \mathcal{D}_S)$  be the one-way stack AFA and  $\mathcal{L}_S = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}_S)$  [6, 5]. Thus  $\mathcal{L}_S$  is the one-way stack languages. It was shown [16] that  $\mathcal{L}_S$  is not closed under substitution. Hence  $\mathcal{L}_S \neq \mathcal{L}_S \hat{\sigma} \mathcal{L}_S = \mathcal{L}((\mathcal{D}_S \wedge \mathcal{D}_S)^N)$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}_S) \neq \mathcal{L}((\wedge \mathcal{D}_S)^N)$ .

The nested stack acceptors (nsa) of [1] are far more general devices than the acceptors in  $(\Lambda_S)^N$ . Members of  $(\Lambda_S)^N$  are essentially nsa which are

(a) nested (as defined in Section 4)--there is at most one nest of stacks at any time.

(b) finitely nested--for each D there is an n such that no more than n stacks are active at any time.

Both (a) and (b) restrict the power of nsa. Specifically, it is shown in [17] that the nsa languages properly include  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathcal{L}_S)$ .

APPENDIX

We consider here the proof of Lemma 4.3. In the process we shall need some notation and ideas pertinent only to this appendix. In addition, we shall need two preliminary lemmas.

We henceforth assume that  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$  are given multitape AFA and that  $\mathfrak{A}_3 = \mathfrak{A}_1 \wedge \mathfrak{A}_2$ .

Let  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, \nu)$  be an acceptor in  $\mathfrak{A}_3^N$  and let  $\nu = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ , with  $k, \ell \geq 1$ , each  $\alpha_i$  in  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and each  $\beta_j$  in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . Let  $G'_D = \{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k) / (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell) \text{ in } G_D \text{ for some } \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell\}$ . For each  $G, \emptyset \neq G \subseteq G'_D$ , write

$$(q, a, w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell)) \vdash_G (q', w, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \bar{\gamma}'_1, \dots, \bar{\gamma}'_\ell))$$

if there exist  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell, u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell$  such that

$$(1) \quad (q', (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell)) \text{ is in } \delta(q, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell));$$

$$(2) \quad \bar{\gamma}'_j = f_{\beta_j}(\gamma'_j, u'_j) \text{ for each } j, 1 \leq j \leq \ell;$$

$$(3) \quad (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k) \text{ is in } G;$$

$$(4) \quad u_i \text{ is in } \psi_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i) \text{ and } \gamma_i \text{ is in } g_{\alpha_i}(\gamma_i) \text{ for each } i, \text{ and } \gamma'_j \text{ is in } g_{\beta_j}(\gamma'_j) \text{ for each } j;$$

and (5)  $\gamma'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$  or  $\bar{\gamma}'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$  for some  $j_0$ .

For each  $i \geq 0$  let  $\vdash^i$  be the relation on configurations defined by induction



as follows:  $C \stackrel{0}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} C$  for each  $C$  and  $C \stackrel{n+1}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} C'$  if there exists  $C''$  such that  $C \stackrel{n}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} C''$  and  $C'' \stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} C'$ . Let  $\stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}}$  be the transitive, reflexive extension of  $\stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}}$ .

Let  $\vdash_{\bar{G}}$  be the relation defined by

$$(q, aw, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_{\bar{G}} (q', w, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$$

if

$$(q, aw, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash (q', w, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)).$$

Let  $\stackrel{*}{\vdash_{\bar{G}}}$  be the reflexive transitive closure of  $\vdash_{\bar{G}}$ . Intuitively,  $\stackrel{*}{\vdash_{\bar{G}}}$  represents transitions in the  $\mathfrak{A}_1$ -part of  $D$  and  $\stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}}$  in the  $\mathfrak{A}_2$ -part of  $D$ . Since  $D$  is nested, if  $C \vdash C'$ , then either  $C \vdash_{\bar{G}} C'$  or  $C \stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} C'$  but not both. Note that transitions  $(p, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash (q', \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  occur as  $\vdash_{\bar{G}}$  and not as  $\stackrel{*}{\underset{G}{\vdash}}$ .

$D$  is said to be in factored form (with factor function  $h$ ) if  $h$  is a function from  $K_1$  into  $\mathcal{U}_D = \{G/G \subseteq G'_D\}$  such that

(1) if  $(q_0, w, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \stackrel{*}{\vdash_{\bar{G}}} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell))$  then  $h(q) \subseteq \{(y_1, \dots, y_k)/y_i \text{ in } g_{\alpha_1}(y_i) \text{ for each } i\}$ .

(2) if  $m \geq 1$  and  $(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)) \stackrel{m}{\underset{G}{\vdash}} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_\ell))$ , then  $h(p) = h(q)$  and

$$(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)) \stackrel{*}{\vdash_{\bar{G} \cap h(p)}} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_\ell)).$$

The following two facts hold whenever  $D$  is in factored form with factor function  $h$ :

(1) If  $(q_0, w, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \stackrel{*}{\vdash_{\bar{G}}} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell))$  and there

exists  $j_0$  such that  $y'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$ , then  $h(q) \neq \emptyset$ . (For there exists a configuration  $C$  and  $m \geq 1$  such that

$$(q_0, w, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash^* C \vdash_{G_D}^m (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)).$$

Hence  $C \vdash_{G_D \cap h(q)}^m (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell))$ . By definition of  $\vdash_{G_D \cap h(q)}$ ,  $G_D \cap h(q) \neq \emptyset$ .)

(2) If  $C_i \vdash_G C_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i < m$ , where each

$C_i = (p_i, w_i, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_{i1}, \dots, y'_{i\ell}))$ , then  $\emptyset \neq h(p_1) = h(p_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , and  $C_i \vdash_{h(p_1)} C_{i+1}$  for each  $i < m$ . In particular,  $C_1 \vdash_{h(p_1)}^{m-1} C_m$ .

$D$  is said to be in restricted factored form if it is in factored form and if  $w \neq \epsilon$  whenever  $m \geq 1$  and there exists a  $G$  such that

$$(q, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_G^m (q', \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)). \quad (16)$$

To prove Lemma 4.3, we shall show that given  $D$  in  $\mathcal{D}_3^N$ , (a) there exists an equivalent device in  $\mathcal{D}_3^N$  in restricted factored form, and (b) if  $D$  is in restricted factored form (and is quasi-realtime), then  $L(D)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}_1^N)_\sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}_2^N)$  ( $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D}_1^N)_\sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{D}_2^N)$ ).

Lemma A. Given  $D$  in  $\mathcal{D}_3^N$ , there exists  $D'$  in  $\mathcal{D}_3^N$  such that

(a)  $D'$  is in factored form,

(b)  $L(D) = L(D')$ ,

and (c)  $D'$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is quasi-realtime.

(16) From the definition of  $\vdash_G$ ,  $m \geq 2$ .

Proof. Let  $K'_1 = K_1 \times \mathcal{U}_D \times \{1, 2\}$ . Let  $D' = (K'_1, \Sigma_1, \delta', (q_0, \emptyset, 1), F \times \{\emptyset\} \times \{1\}, v)$ ,

where  $\delta'$  is defined as follows (for arbitrary  $p$  in  $K_1$ ,  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ , and  $G$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ ):

(1)  $((p, \emptyset, 1), (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), l(\beta_1, \epsilon), \dots, l(\beta_\ell, \epsilon)))$  is in  $\delta'((p, G, 2), \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for all  $G \neq \emptyset$  and  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G$ .

(2)  $((p, GU[(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)], 1), (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), l(\beta_1, \epsilon), \dots, l(\beta_\ell, \epsilon)))$  is in  $\delta'((p, G, 1), \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for each  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G'_D - G$ .

(3) If  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  and  $u'_{j_0}$  is not in  $\psi_{\beta_{j_0}}(\epsilon)$  for some  $j_0$ , then  $((q, G, 2), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta'((p, G, 1), a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for all  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $G$ .

(4) If  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$ ,  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell)$  in  $G_D$ , and for some  $j_0$ , either  $u'_{j_0}$  is not in  $\psi_{\beta_{j_0}}(\epsilon)$  or  $\gamma'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$ , then  $((q, G, 2), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta'((p, G, 2), a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_\ell))$  for all  $G$  containing  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$ .

(5) If  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ ,  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)$  in  $G_D$  and  $u'_j$  is in  $\psi_{\beta_j}(\epsilon)$  for all  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq \ell$ , then  $((q, \emptyset, 1), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_\ell))$  is in  $\delta'((p, \emptyset, 1), a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ .

Obviously  $D'$  is in  $\mathcal{A}_3^N$ . Let  $h$  be the function defined by  $h((p, G, 1)) = G$  for all  $p$  in  $K_1$ ,  $G$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $i$  in  $\{1, 2\}$ . By inspection (since  $G'_D = G'_D$ ),  $D'$  is in factored form with factor function  $h$ , i.e.,  $D'$  satisfies (a).

Consider (b).  $D'$  enters a state  $(p, G, 2)$  if and only if  $D$  has a  $\frac{1}{G}$  transition. Type 3 and type 4 rules imitate  $\frac{1}{G}$  transitions, and type 5 rules imitate  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$  transitions in  $D$ . Since  $D$  is nested, every transition has an associated  $\frac{1}{G}$  or  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$  transition. When the  $\mathfrak{A}_2$ -tapes are  $\epsilon$ , a type 1 rule can be used to go from a state  $(p, G, 2)$ , where  $h((p, G, 1)) = G \neq \emptyset$ , to a state  $(p, \emptyset, 1)$  and then enter the  $\mathfrak{A}_1$ -part of the acceptor. Type 2 rules represent the guess that  $D$  executes a  $\frac{1}{G}$  transition. Once  $h((p, G, 1)) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $D'$  ultimately blocks or else executes (by a type 3 rule) at least one  $\frac{1}{G}$  transition. Thus  $L(D) = L(D')$ .

Consider (c). If  $\#(G'_D) = n_0$ , then  $D'$  has at most  $n+2$  consecutive  $\epsilon$ -moves for each  $\epsilon$ -move of  $D$ . Thus  $D'$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is quasi-realtime.

**Lemma B.** If  $D$  in  $\mathfrak{A}_3^N$  is in factored form, then there exists  $D''$  in  $\mathfrak{A}_3^N$  such that

- (a)  $D''$  is in restricted factored form,
- (b)  $L(D'') = L(D)$ ,

and (c)  $D''$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is quasi-realtime.

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be in factored form with factor function  $h$ . Since

$(p, \epsilon, (x_1, \dots, x_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{G}} (q, \epsilon, (x_1, \dots, x_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)), m \geq 1$ , implies  $\emptyset \neq h(p) = h(q)$  and  $(p, \epsilon, (x_1, \dots, x_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{h(p)}} (q, \epsilon, (x_1, \dots, x_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ , we need only consider such transitions with  $G = h(p) = h(q)$ . Let  $S$  be the set of all  $(p, q)$  in  $K_1 \times K_1$ , where  $p \neq q$  and  $\emptyset \neq h(p) = h(q)$ , such that there exist  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k$  satisfying

$$(p, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{h(p)}}^* (q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)).$$

Let  $K''_1 = K_1 \cup (K_1 \times (\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}))$ . Let  $D'' = (K''_1, \Sigma_1, \delta'', q_0, F'', v)$ , where  $F'' = F \cup (F \times \{\epsilon\})$

and  $\delta''$  is defined as follows:

- (1)  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$

if  $(q, u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l)$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ , with  $u'_j$  in  $\psi_{\beta_j}(\epsilon)$  for all  $j$ .

[By (1), the  $\vdash^*$  transitions of  $D$  appear in  $D''$ .]

(2)  $(q, (l(\alpha_1, \gamma_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, \gamma_k), l(\beta_1, \epsilon), \dots, l(\beta_l, \epsilon)))$  is in  $\delta''(p, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for all  $(p, q)$  in  $S$  and all  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $h(p)$ .

[Since  $p \neq q$ , the  $\epsilon$ -move in (2) replaces at least two  $\epsilon$ -moves in  $D$ . For if  $(p, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_G^* (q, \epsilon, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for  $p \neq q$ , then by definition of  $\vdash_G$  at least two moves are needed.]

(3) If  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ , with  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $h(p) = h(q)$  and  $u'_{j_0}$  not in  $\psi_{\beta_{j_0}}(\epsilon)$  for some  $j_0$ ,

then

( $\alpha$ )  $((q, \epsilon), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  if  $a$  is in  $\Sigma_1$ .

( $\beta$ )  $((q, b), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''(p, b, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for each  $b$  in  $\Sigma_1$  if  $a = \epsilon$ .

[By (3), a sequence of  $\vdash_G$  moves in  $D''$  starts with a non- $\epsilon$  input, namely, either the input to  $D$  (3 $\alpha$ ), or a guess as to the eventual non- $\epsilon$  input symbol to be read by  $D$  (3 $\beta$ ).]

(4) If  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_l))$ , with  $\gamma'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$  for some  $j_0$  and  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$  in  $h(p) = h(q)$ , then

( $\alpha$ )  $((q, \epsilon), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''((p, \epsilon), a, (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_l))$ .

( $\beta$ )  $((q, \epsilon), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''((p, a), \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$  if  $a$  is in  $\Sigma_1$ .

( $\gamma$ )  $((q, b), (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta''((p, b), \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$  for all  $b$  in  $\Sigma_1$  if  $a = \epsilon$ .

[By (4),  $D''$  can enter no state  $(q, \epsilon)$  until the guess as to the non- $\epsilon$  input of  $D$  has been verified. If  $D''$  enters a configuration  $((q, a), w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  with  $a \neq \epsilon$ , then  $D''$  blocks since it has traced out a computation on  $\epsilon$ -input handled by a type 2 rule. Otherwise, a  $\frac{*}{G}$  transition is unchanged.]

(5)  $(p, (l(\alpha_1, y_1), \dots, l(\alpha_n, y_n), l(\beta_1, \epsilon), \dots, l(\beta_n, \epsilon)))$  is in  $\delta''((p, \epsilon), \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  for each  $p$  in  $K_1$  and  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  in  $h(p)$ . [After tracing a  $\frac{*}{G}$  computation on non- $\epsilon$  input,  $D''$  returns to a  $K_1$ -state and imitates either  $\frac{*}{f}$  or  $\frac{*}{G}$  transitions.]

Since only type 5 rules add  $\epsilon$ -rules not simulating  $\epsilon$ -rules in  $D$  and these cannot be applied twice in a row,  $D''$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is.

The only transitions of  $D$  not represented in  $D''$  are  $(p, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \xrightarrow{\frac{*}{h(p)}} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  and these are covered by (2). The only new transitions are (2) and (5). Thus  $L(D) = L(D'')$ .

Let  $\bar{h}$  be the function on  $K_1''$  defined by  $\bar{h}(p) = \bar{h}((p, a)) = h(p)$  for each  $p$  in  $K_1$  and  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ . Then  $D''$  is in factored form with factor function  $\bar{h}$ . Now  $\frac{*}{G}$  computations in  $D''$  start with a type 3 rule. Since all type 3 rules have non- $\epsilon$  input,  $D''$  is in restricted factored form.

We are now ready for Lemma 4.3.

Lemma 4.3.  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_3^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_2^N)$

and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_3^N) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1^N) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_2^N)$ .

Proof. Let  $D = (K_1, \Sigma_1, \delta, q_0, F, v)$  be in  $\mathcal{A}_3^N$ . Suppose each  $\alpha$  in  $v$  is in  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .

Then  $D$  is in  $\mathcal{A}_1^N$  and  $L(D) = \tau(L(D))$ , where  $\tau$  is the  $\epsilon$ -free substitution defined

by  $\tau(a) = \{a\}$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$ . Since the AFL  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_2^N)$  contains each  $\epsilon$ -free regular set and thus each  $\{a\}$ , each  $\tau(a)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_2^N)$ , whence the result.

Similarly, if all  $\alpha$  in  $v$  are in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ , then  $D$  is in  $\mathcal{A}_2^N$  and  $L(D) = \tau(\{a\})$ , whence  $\tau(a) = L(D)$  and the regular set  $\{a\}$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_1^N)$ . Thus assume that

$v = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell)$ , with  $k, \ell \geq 1$ ,  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\ell\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_2$ .

By Lemmas A and B we may assume that  $D$  is in restricted factored form with

factor function  $h$ . We shall say that  $G$  describes  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  if  $G \subseteq$

$\{(y_1, \dots, y_k)/y_1 \text{ in } \mathcal{A}_{\alpha_1}(y_1) \text{ for each } i\}$ . We shall say  $(p, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  is

accessible if  $(q_0, w, (\epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \xrightarrow{*} (p, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell))$  for some

$w$  and some  $(y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that if  $p$

is in  $K_1$ , then there exists  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  such that  $(p, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  is

accessible.

Since  $D$  is in factored form, if

$(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)) \xrightarrow{m}_G (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_\ell))$  for some  $m \geq 1$  and if  $(p, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  is accessible, then the following hold:

(1)  $h(p) = h(q)$  and  $h(p)$  describes  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$ .

(2)  $(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_\ell)) \xrightarrow{m}_{h(p)} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_\ell))$ .

(3) If  $h(p)$  describes  $(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_l)$ , then

$$(p, w, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l)) \vdash_{h(p)}^m (q, \epsilon, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_l)).$$

For each  $(p, q)$  in  $K_1 \times K_1$  with  $h(p) = h(q) \neq \emptyset$ , let  $\langle p, q \rangle$  be a new symbol and let

$$L_{p,q} = \{w / (p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_{h(p)}^{*m} (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \text{ for some } m \geq 1 \text{ and some } y_1, \dots, y_k\}.$$

(The condition  $m \geq 1$  is needed for the case  $p=q$  since otherwise  $L_{p,q}$  might trivially contain  $\epsilon$ .) Since  $D$  is in restricted factored form,  $L_{p,q}$  is obviously  $\epsilon$ -free. Let  $K_{p,q} = \{s \text{ in } K_1 / h(s) = h(p)\}$  and let  $D_{p,q} =$

$(K_{p,q}, \delta_{p,q}, p, \{q\}, (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_l))$ , where  $\delta_{p,q}$  is defined as follows (for all appropriate  $s_1, s_2, a$ , etc): If  $(s_2, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta(s_1, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$ , with  $h(s_1) = h(s_2) = h(p)$  and there exist  $j_0$  such that either  $u'_{j_0}$  is not in  $\psi_{\beta_{j_0}}(y'_{j_0})$  or  $y'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$ ; then  $(s_2, (u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta_{p,q}(s_1, a, (y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$ .

Suppose  $h(p) = h(q) \neq \emptyset$ . Obviously  $D_{p,q}$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is quasi-realtime. If

$$(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_{h(p)}^{*m} (s_1, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$$

$$\text{and } (s_1, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_1, \dots, y'_l)) \vdash_{h(p)} (s_2, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_1, \dots, y''_l)),$$

then  $h(p) = h(s_1) = h(s_2)$  and there exists  $j_0$  such that either  $y'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$  or  $y''_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$ , so that

$$(s_1, a, (y'_1, \dots, y'_l)) \vdash_{D_{p,q}} (s_2, \epsilon, (y''_1, \dots, y''_l)).$$



Hence  $L_{p,q} \subseteq L(D_{p,q})$ . On the other hand, suppose  $(s_1, a, (y'_1, \dots, y'_l))$

$\vdash_{D_{p,q}} (s_2, \epsilon, (y''_1, \dots, y''_l))$ . Then  $h(p) = h(s_1) = h(s_2)$ , there exists

$(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  such that  $h(p)$  describes  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  (by (1)), and there exists

$j_0$  such that either  $y'_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$  or  $y''_{j_0} \neq \epsilon$ . Thus

$$(s_1, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y'_{j_0}, \dots, y'_{j_0})) \vdash_{h(p)} (s_2, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, y''_{j_0}, \dots, y''_{j_0})).$$

Hence  $L(D_{p,q}) \subseteq L_{p,q}$ , so that  $L(D_{p,q}) = L_{p,q}$ .

Let  $\Sigma_2$  be the set of all  $\langle p, q \rangle$ . Let  $\tau$  be the substitution on  $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$  defined by  $\tau(a) = \{a\}$  for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\tau(\langle p, q \rangle) = L_{p,q}$  for each  $\langle p, q \rangle$  in  $\Sigma_2$ . Then  $\tau$  is an  $\epsilon$ -free substitution by  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_2)$ , and if  $D$  is quasi-realtime then  $\tau$  is an  $\epsilon$ -free substitution by  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{A}_2)$ .

Now let  $\bar{D} = (K_1, \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2, \bar{\delta}, q_0, F, (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k))$ , where  $\bar{\delta}$  is defined as follows:

(4)  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k))$  is in  $\bar{\delta}(p, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  if  $(q, (u_1, \dots, u_k, u'_1, \dots, u'_l))$  is in  $\delta(p, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$  and  $u'_j$  is in  $\psi_{\beta_j}(\epsilon)$  for all  $j$ .

(5)  $(q, (l(\alpha_1, y_1), \dots, l(\alpha_k, y_k)))$  is in  $\bar{\delta}(p, \langle p, q \rangle, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  for all  $p, q$  such that  $h(p) = h(q) \neq \emptyset$  and  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  is in  $h(p)$ .

If  $(p, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k)) \vdash_D (q, \epsilon, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k))$ , with  $a$  in  $\Sigma_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ , then  $\tau(a) = \{a\}$  and  $(p, a, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_D (q, \epsilon, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon))$ .

Thus  $(q, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k))$  is accessible if  $(p, (y_1, \dots, y_k))$  is. If

$(p, b, (y_1, \dots, y_k)) \vdash_{\bar{D}} (q, \epsilon, (\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k))$ , with  $b$  in  $\Sigma_2$ , then  $b = \langle p, q \rangle$ ,  $\tau(b) = L_{p,q}$ , and  $(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_k) = (y_1, \dots, y_k)$ . In addition, if  $w$  is in  $L_{p,q}$  and  $h(p)$  describes  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$ , then

$$(p, w, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)) \vdash_{\bar{D}, h(p)}^* (q, \epsilon, (y_1, \dots, y_k, \epsilon, \dots, \epsilon)).$$

(For if a transition in  $D$  holds for some  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$  described by  $h(p)$ , it holds for all such  $(y_1, \dots, y_k)$ .) From this it readily follows that  $L(D) = \tau(L(\bar{D}))$ . Clearly  $\bar{D}$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\bar{D}$  is quasi-realtime if  $D$  is. Hence  $L(D)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_1) \sigma \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{S}_2)$ , and if  $D$  is quasi-realtime then  $L(D)$  is in  $\mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_1) \sigma \mathcal{L}^t(\mathcal{S}_2)$ .

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13. ABSTRACT  The present paper gives device representations, via multitape AFA, for the families of languages which result from applying the $\wedge$ and the substitution operations to AFL. In particular, if $\mathcal{A}_1$ and $\mathcal{A}_2$ are multitape AFA (i.e., certain families of multi-storage tape acceptors), then $\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2$ is defined as the family of multitape acceptors which results when the tapes of $\mathcal{A}_1$ and $\mathcal{A}_2$ are coalesced, with the $\mathcal{A}_1$ -tapes preceding those in $\mathcal{A}_2$ . It is shown that the smallest full AFL containing $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1) \wedge \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_2) = \{L_1 \cap L_2 / L_1 \text{ in } \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1)\}$ is $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2)$ . For each multitape AFA $\mathcal{A}$ , a set $\mathcal{A}^N$ of "nested" multitape acceptors is defined. It is shown that if $\mathcal{A}_1$ and $\mathcal{A}_2$ are single-tape AFA, then the family of languages obtained from $(\mathcal{A}_1 \wedge \mathcal{A}_2)^N$ is the family of languages obtained by substituting the AFL defined by $\mathcal{A}_2$ into the AFL defined by $\mathcal{A}_1$ .			

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